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THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: MAY 2009

HEARING

BEFORE THE

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH CONGRESS

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THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: MAY 2009

FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 2009

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE,
Washington, DC.

The committee met, pursuant to call, at 9:32 a.m. in Room 106 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, presiding.

Representatives present: Cummings, Brady, and Burgess.

Senators present: Klobuchar and Casey.

Staff present: Gail Cohen, Nan Gibson, Colleen Healy, Aaron Kabaker, Justin Ungson, Andrew Wilson, Rachel Greszler, Lydia Mashburn, Jeff Schlagenhauf, Jeff Wrase, and Chris Frenze.

OPENING STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS, A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE FROM MARYLAND

Representative Cummings. Good morning. I would like to thank Chair Maloney for holding this hearing. I also welcome Commissioner Hall and his colleagues from the Bureau of Labor Statistics to brief us on the most recent unemployment data.

This morning's release reported May job losses totalling 345,000—almost half of the losses in recent months—but an unemployment rate of 9.4 percent, a jump of half a percentage from the previous month.

Adding up discouraged workers and part-time workers who cannot find full-time employment, the unemployment rate jumped to 16.4 percent, the highest rate since the government started collecting this information in 1994.

However, it was also announced recently that the initial jobless claims for the week ending May 30th fell. The Consumer Confidence Index experienced a small uptick, and the European Central Bank held interest rates steady yesterday, signaling expectations that the global economy may just have bottomed out.

I am encouraged by the marginal improvements like Consumer Confidence, but even this good sign is accompanied by a sobering counterpoint. Increased consumer spending has yet to translate into actual spending by consumers of businesses—or businesses, rather, families are saving, and I do not blame them. They see that more than one in four unemployed workers has been unemployed for over six months, and that the median duration of unemployment is now 14.9 weeks, a record high since the series started in 1967.

The cumulative effects of the recession, seven consecutive months of loss totaling 6 million jobs, have left these ordinary very hard-working Americans on precarious footing.

When a worker is laid off, economists say that that person experienced a, quote, “income shock.” This is a vast understatement.

Now unemployed families must work through any savings they have accrued to pay bills and continue to feed their children. And then, as home values fall and mortgages go unpaid, they are suddenly looking foreclosure in the face.

While the foreclosure crisis started with homes that fell victim to plunging values and then moved to the subprime sector, the borrowers facing interest rate hikes, now prime borrowers, have been affected as well.

The New York Times wrote on May 24th that, and I quote: This third wave of foreclosures can be attributed in large part to the rising tide of unemployment. Fortunately, to many homeowners some degree of help is available. We have strong mortgage modification programs in place that allow homeowners to decrease their payments and work out solutions to stay in their homes.

But for the unemployed, however, when home values fall a mortgage modification will take them only so far. What a modification cannot do is bring back an income or health insurance.

So without new and creative ways to help the unemployed, these Americans may still lose their homes. We also know that a job loss does not just affect the individual employee and his or her home; surrounding home values fall with each foreclosure, and some cities have seen more than 100 foreclosures every day.

Further, our safety nets are stretched thin, and that is all some folks have. I read yesterday in *USA Today* that one of every six dollars of Americans’ income is from unemployment, social security, or public benefits.

Further, ProPublica reported that 14 states have already gone through available unemployment reserve funds. So the effects of unemployment are being felt in so many places by all of us.

Accordingly, this Congress and President Obama have taken decisive action against the recession through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, as well as legislation addressing predatory mortgage lending and unfair credit card practices.

We are also helping people at the local level. Tomorrow in Baltimore we are putting over 500 borrowers together with 19 lenders to try to work out mortgage solutions. I hope everyone who shows up can save his or her home, but I suspect that will not be the case as the unemployed may not qualify for modifications.

It would be almost impossible to modify a loan when you do not have a job. I look forward to the testimony of Dr. Hall, as we must understand exactly where we are in this crisis and just how far we have to go.

With that, I will yield to Mr. Brady.

[The prepared statement of Elijah E. Cummings appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 28.]

OPENING STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE KEVIN BRADY, A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE FROM TEXAS

Representative Brady. Thank you, Mr. Cummings, and I join you in welcoming Commissioner Hall before the Committee this morning.

The increase in the unemployment rate to a level of 9.4 percent is disturbing for several reasons.

First, the higher unemployment rate reflects greater hardship for American workers and their families.

Second, along with other economic data it reflects the continuing weakness in the economy.

And third, the higher unemployment rate underscores the unrealistic nature of the Administration's economic assumptions based on the idea that the stimulus spending would cap rising unemployment.

The payroll employment decline reported today also shows that the economy continues to contract. The 345,000 drop in May payroll employment is a significant monthly job loss and is broadly based in many industries. Although the overall pace of job loss was not as terrible as in recent months, manufacturing continues to suffer large employment declines.

There is some tentative evidence suggesting the economy may bottom out in coming months. For example, financial market conditions have improved; some measures of manufacturing activity have stabilized; and some data related to housing and construction are less negative.

However, measures to prevent foreclosures are not working well, and re-default rates are very high with more loan losses to come. Business investment has collapsed, and the commercial real estate continues to be under stress. Consumer spending is weak, and exports are falling as many of our major trading partners are also experiencing recession.

I continue to be concerned about the Administration's unrealistic economic assumptions which were the basis for the President's budget proposal. *The Economist* magazine called these economic assumptions dangerous because they understate the true cost of the Administration's deficit spending and debt accumulation.

Unfortunately, according to the Congressional Budget Office Administration policies will triple the national debt to a level of $17.3 trillion by 2019. This avalanche of government deficits and debt is one reason long-term interest rates, including mortgage rates, are on the rise.

A central problem is that the Administration assumed that its stimulus spending sprees would significantly improve the economy. As this poster shows, as we compare the projections by the White House versus the real economy, just in January two top Administration economists projected that the unemployment rate would not exceed 8 percent this year or next if the stimulus was enacted.

The Administration followed up by forecasting an average unemployment rate of 8.1 percent for all of 2009. However, as this poster shows, the current level of the unemployment rate, well above 9 percent, is enough to show that the Administration's assumptions about the positive impact of the stimulus was wrong. If the Administration's forecast were internally consistent, this would also indicate that the economy will be lower, the GDP will be lower than projected.

An economic upturn should occur by next year, if only due to the huge amounts of money and credit injected into the economy by the Federal Reserve.

However, the economic recovery probably will be quite weak and not consistent with the White House's rosy scenario for 2010. So what will be the sources of economic growth next year?

With many households forced to pay down debt, a surge in consumption is not likely. Excessive levels of government spending and debt are already rattling financial markets, so much more government stimulus spending is not a feasible option.

U.S. exports may be constrained by weakness in other countries, and by retaliation against our own trade policies. That leaves investment as a main source of growth. But how many will undertake long-term investments when facing a tidal wave of new taxes, entitlement spending, and inflation? Future economic growth will rely heavily on investment, but more taxes, government borrowing, regulation, and inflation all will hit investors very hard.

Government is not evil, and up to a point provides more benefits than costs, but beyond this point becomes counterproductive. Policymakers should understand that excessive government does have the potential to choke off healthy economic and employment growth.

If the long-term rate of economic growth is reduced from 3 to 2 percent or below, the result will be much slower job growth and higher levels of unemployment. Congress should wake up to the damage that it is inflicting and stop enacting legislation that only increases the burden of government on the economy.

With that, I would yield back.

[The prepared statement of Kevin Brady appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 28.]

Representative Cummings. Thank you very much, Mr. Brady. Now we are very pleased to—Mr. Burgess, do you have an opening statement?

Representative Burgess. Mr. Chairman, I do.

Representative Cummings. Thank you. Yield to you for five minutes.

OPENING STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE MICHAEL C. BURGESS, M.D., A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE FROM TEXAS

Representative Burgess. Thank you. Thanks for the indulgence.

Each month this Committee receives the release of the Bureau of Labor Statistics' numbers, and each month we continue to feel the need for what President Clinton used to call "that laser like focus on the economy."

This month we see significant job losses without extreme—without any focus on economy priorities. Perhaps Congress needs to appoint someone solely responsible for focusing the effects on domestic economic issues.

We could use someone in the room who will say, "how exactly will this new initiative, this new czar, this new czarina, or bill that is supposed to have a causal relationship, how will this create new jobs?"

Two weeks ago in one of my other committees we heard a lot about cap and trade. They said cap and trade will lead to new jobs. The report released on Tuesday by the White House Council of Economic Advisers claims that the President's concept of health care reform would create 500,000 jobs a year.

Well, we can all look forward to those potential jobs in 2012, 2014, 2016, when these plans take effect, but where is the plan to build job growth this month, or even this year?

Looking at the numbers released this morning, the only industry that appears to be on a hiring spree is us, the Federal Government. It only makes sense that, at the rapid pace of the size and scope of the Federal Government has increased over the last four months, the Federal Government would need more employees to keep up.

However, government spending is a boon for people living here, but government hiring is not an effective method for aggregate job growth or industry-wide all-states employment gains.

To illustrate the real impact of the job losses, we certainly can look at the home foreclosure numbers. Nationally, home foreclosures—the foreclosure stated rate, the homes that are starting to enter the foreclosure process, is 1.4 percent compared to just 1 percent a year earlier. The foreclosure inventory stands at 3.9 percent, compared to 2.5 percent a year earlier. While 7.2 percent of mortgages are seriously delinquent compared to only 4 percent a year earlier.

In Texas the inventory of foreclosed mortgages is 1.7 percent compared to 1.5 the prior quarter, and 1.45 percent for all of the past year.

Needless to say, these trends are troubling. What is most troubling is the fact that these are not foreclosures due to an unexpected uptick on the adjustable rate mortgage or the result of some subprime mortgage swindle; these problems have, for the most part, been purged from the financial system. These foreclosure numbers represent homes in trouble or lost due to loss of family income related to the loss of a job.

We can take away the bank's ability to foreclose or force bankruptcy judges to modify mortgages, but these actions ignore the source of the problem. The downward trend in foreclosures needs to be addressed and it needs to be addressed before major social initiatives like environmental reform through cap and trade legislation, and certainly before Congress undertakes to name an additional 50 Post Offices.

Again, I call for all hands on deck and all efforts to focus on improving the domestic economy. I would like to point out that we are going to continue to see job losses if the government is allowed to close 789 Chrysler dealerships, and 1100 GM dealerships, as part of the Administration's auto industry restructuring plan.

It is interesting that all of these decisions are made by someone in the West Wing of the White House who has never even held a private-sector job.

If these dealerships are comfortable staying open and the banks in the community can continue to provide the capital, I frankly cannot see a reason why these dealerships should be forced to close. Who else is going to sell these little green cars if we do not have the dealerships there to provide the services.

Well I would like to thank Dr. Hall for testifying before the Committee, and for his team's important work at the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

I will yield back the balance of my time.

Representative Cummings. Thank you very much, Mr. Burgess.

We are very pleased, again, to welcome Commissioner Keith Hall of the Labor Statistics for the United States Department of Labor, and thank you very much for being with us. I yield to you, sir.

STATEMENT OF DR. KEITH HALL, COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS; ACCOMPANIED BY DR. MICHAEL HORRIGAN, ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER FOR PRICES AND LIVING CONDITIONS, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS; AND MR. PHILIP RONES, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, WASHINGTON, DC

Commissioner Hall. Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss the employment and unemployment data that we released this morning.

Nonfarm payroll employment declined by 345,000 in May. Job losses averaged 643,000 per month during the prior 6 months. In May, the unemployment rate rose from 8.9 to 9.4 percent. Since the recession began in December 2007, payroll employment has fallen by 6 million, and the unemployment rate has increased by 4.5 percentage points.

Job losses continued to be widespread in May, but the rate of decline moderated in construction and several service-providing industries.

Large job losses continued in the manufacturing sector with employment declines in nearly all component industries. Employment fell sharply in motor vehicles and parts, machinery, and fabricated metals. Since the start of the recession, manufacturing employment has decreased by 1.8 million, accounting for 30 percent of the jobs lost during this downturn.

Construction employment declined by 59,000 in May, half the average of the previous 6 months. Job losses moderated in the private service-providing industries, with employment falling by 113,000 in May compared with an average monthly decline of 356,000 in the prior 6 months.

Employment was little changed in temporary help, retail trade, and leisure and hospitality, following large declines in recent months.

Elsewhere in the service-providing sector, the health care industry added 24,000 jobs in May. This was about in line with the trend thus far in 2009.

In May, average hourly earnings for production and nonsupervisory workers in the private sector were up by 2 cents to $18.54.

Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings have risen by 3.1 percent. From April 2008 to April 2009, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earnings and Clerical Workers declined by 1.2 percent.

Turning to measures from the Survey of Households, the unemployment rate increased from 8.9 to 9.4 percent over the month. The number of unemployed rose by 787,000 to 14.5 million.

Since the recession began, the jobless rate has increased by 4.5 percentage points, and the number of unemployed persons has grown by 7 million.

Among the unemployed, the number who have been out of work 27 weeks or more increased by 268,000 to 3.9 million. These long-term unemployed represent 2.5 percent of the labor force, the highest proportion since 1983.

Over the month, the employment-to-population ratio edged down to 59.7 percent, the lowest level since October 1984. Since the recession began, the employment-to-population ratio has fallen by 3 percentage points.

Among the employed, the number of persons working part time who would prefer full-time work was little changed for the second consecutive month. At 9.1 million in May, involuntary part-time employment was 4.4 million higher than at the start of the recession.

Among those outside the labor force—that is, persons neither working nor looking for work—the number of discouraged workers was 792,000 in May, up from 400,000 a year earlier. These individuals are not currently looking for work because they believe no jobs are available to them.

In summary, nonfarm payroll employment fell by 345,000 in May, compared with the average monthly decline of 643,000 for the previous 6 months. While job losses continued to be widespread, declines moderated in construction and in a number of service-providing industries. The unemployment rate rose by half a percentage point to 9.4 percent.

My colleagues and I would now be glad to answer your questions.

[The prepared statement of Keith Hall appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 29.]

Representative Cummings. Thank you very much, Commissioner Hall.

Commissioner, I think we had a loss of about 652,000 jobs in March. Is that right? Is that estimate right?

Commissioner Hall. Yes, that's correct.

Representative Cummings. And we had a loss of about 504,000 in April? Is that correct?

Commissioner Hall. Yes, that's correct.

Representative Cummings. And this month we are talking about 345,000? Is that right?

Commissioner Hall. That's correct.

Representative Cummings. Now tell us the significance of that. Is that a slowing down of the job losses, the rate of job losses? Is that a reasonable statement there?

Commissioner Hall. Yes, it is. We have had a steady moderation in job loss for, it looks like four straight months now.

Representative Cummings. And what does that tell you? I mean, when you are trying to look forward what does that say? Does it—and what do you attribute that to?

Commissioner Hall. Well this is clearly not an improvement in the job market yet. This is a moderation in the job loss. So this is what we hope to see on the way towards eventually job growth.

Representative Cummings. Now we have heard a number of, here recently, folks, the so-called experts, say that we are, it looks like we may be coming out of this recession at the end of the year, or some who look at it a little more conservatively say sometime in the next year. What do you see?

Commissioner Hall. It is hard for me to project, but I will say this sort of moderation is consistent with an improving job market. As far as whether it will hold, continue to moderate in the future, I can't say.

Representative Cummings. Now is it possible to identify the effects of the stimulus bill with regard to employment data? I mean, is there any correlation you can make from looking at what you see there?

Commissioner Hall. It is hard for us to do that. We are rather focused on just sort of getting the numbers correct, and we don't tend to try and look and see where the stimulus spending has occurred and where we are seeing improvements.

Representative Cummings. I understand. Well where have the improvements been?

Commissioner Hall. The improvements have been fairly widespread outside of manufacturing. So we have had a moderation of job loss very much in the service-providing sector, which is interesting because in the prior six months about half the job loss was in services. And now it is maybe a third of the job loss.

Representative Cummings. And why is that so significant?

Commissioner Hall. I think it is significant because this downturn sort of started in manufacturing and construction, and when things got really severe, the most severe job loss—and this job loss is still severe—it was very widespread and really included even services.

So having services back out is a good sign. It's not a good sign, obviously, for manufacturing but it's a good sign that—well, it is a good sign that we are seeing broad moderation.

Representative Cummings. Now there have been recent reports with regard to I think *The New York Times* carried an article just recently saying basically that we have a situation where, for example, in New York they predict now that they will not get 44 percent of the employment taxes—in other words, earnings' taxes—because I guess the unemployment rate is down.

When you hear figures like that, how does that affect—how do you see that affecting this job situation? In other words, state governments are getting less money, possibly. And there is another report that says that number of these state governments, in almost every area that they had predicted that they would be gaining funds they are actually coming up very short. And so what do you see with regard to state government and how does that, the state and local government, how does that relate to all of this?

Commissioner Hall. So far, even the last six or seven months, the employment at the state and local level has been pretty flat. Obviously the concern would be that at some point the budgets may start to cause state and local governments to decline in employment.

Representative Cummings. And that would be a major problem?

Commissioner Hall. It would.

Representative Cummings. The other thing that Mr. Burgess referred to was the foreclosure situation. As a matter of fact, Mr. Brady and Mr. Burgess referred to it. And we've got situations where we are doing these modifications, but if people do not have jobs that is a real problem. Do you see that—that is, the loss of housing—does that create a problem with regard to jobs, too?

Commissioner Hall. Sure it does. I think it is the same sort of cycle that you see with consumption or anything else. When you have foreclosures, or when you have consumer spending down, it creates unemployment. Then the unemployment creates more, a bigger decline in consumer spending. So it is a cycle. So it would be the same thing I think with foreclosures.

Representative Cummings. I see my time has expired. Mr. Brady for five minutes.

Representative Brady. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

You were making the point that the job market is not improving; it is continuing to decline at a significant rate, just thankfully not as deep and quickly as in the past months.

What does the May decline in payroll employment say about the current economic conditions?

Commissioner Hall. Although there has been some moderation in the job loss, this still is a significant job loss and this still signals a labor market that is not healthy.

Representative Brady. Well that is what I sense back home in visiting with retailers and construction manufacturing industry and the service, especially in the commercial real estate. We're not seeing—the government programs to help people with mortgages are failing. I think the hope for home ownership—home owners program was supposed to help 400,000 people keep their homes, and it helped like 200.

The incentives for new home owners to purchase homes, again almost no takes. We are hopeful that some of the new redrawn plans might help, but I still think underlying, as Mr. Cummings said, is a very weak economy that's got some future challenges ahead.

There has been a lot of spin in Washington these past months about the impact of the stimulus, and it is almost like we are listening to Baghdad Bob again from Iraq tell us about how the country is winning the war as the U.S. Troops are rolling into his city.

Last January, two top Administration economists argued that if we enacted the stimulus, which has added—you know, will add almost a trillion dollars to our debt—that if we did that, we would keep the unemployment rate at or below 8 percent this year.

This level has already been exceeded, correct?

Commissioner Hall. Correct.

Representative Brady. And isn't there, from an economic view looking at the poster and watching the rising unemployment, which trails the economy as we all know, but looking at the President's projections of 8 percent, 8.1 percent versus the current 9.4 percent, is that statistically significant in unemployment?

Commissioner Hall. Yes, that's a significant difference. And to reach an 8.1 percent average for the year, we would need to see the unemployment rate drop to well below 8.1 percent for a good portion of the year to hit that mark. It seems difficult.

Representative Brady. Yes. And the deeper we go into the year, the more severe—we would almost have to be in the 7 percent, or 6 percent rate at some point to be able to meet that need, which again worries me because these are projections that were used for the budget, which means we are hiding a deeper level of debt.

The Administration, including the Vice President, has claimed that the stimulus policies have added 150,000 new jobs to the level of employment, we see this cited almost daily by the Administration, can you substantiate that claim?

Commissioner Hall. No, that would be a very difficult thing for anybody to substantiate.

Representative Brady. And Chairman, who is a highly respected Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, Chairman Romer, also cited that 150,000 job creation figure in her recent testimony before this Committee. You are saying you cannot verify that the Administration's policies have created those additional 150,000 jobs?

Commissioner Hall. No. We are busy just counting jobs.

Representative Brady. Right. The Administration's tax reduction went into effect in April. One of the major parts of the stimulus bill adds about $1.10 a day to the income of individual taxpayers. What evidence is there in this report today that that measure had any positive effect on employment conditions?

Commissioner Hall. I really would not be able to make a connection between the two in this report.

Representative Brady. Okay. Mr. Chairman, thank you very much.

Representative Cummings. Thank you very much. Just so—I just want to make sure we are clear, Mr. Brady has asked you a number of questions and you have said things like I'm just counting jobs, and whatever. Are you saying that the information that he is providing you is inaccurate? Or you do not have the information? Or that is not a part of what you are answering?

Because I think you are sending out a message here, I think, that is not what you—what I think you are saying.

Commissioner Hall. Thank you for the chance to clarify.

Representative Cummings. Yes, please clarify.

Commissioner Hall. It is just not something we would be able to measure. It does not mean it is not true.

Representative Cummings. That is a big difference.

Commissioner Hall. Right.

Representative Cummings. All right.

Representative Brady. Well, actually, Mr. Chairman——

Representative Cummings. I yield to the gentleman.

Representative Brady [continuing]. I wasn't providing information to Mr. Hall. I was asking about the claims that have been made by the Administration, and are they reflected in these job numbers. And his answer was very clear: No, they are not. He cannot verify them. They are not justifiable in here. And I understand that he should not go beyond his scope of expertise in these areas, but I think the time when we are seeing so much spin on the economy it is important to go to the facts.

Representative Cummings. Well now I have got to—I do not want to carry this on too much longer, but, Mr. Hall, as I heard what you—I just want to make sure we are clear.

When these statements are made, if you do not have the information I would prefer that you say that; because you can see what is happening here. And I do not want it out there that you are saying you are denying the numbers when you do not have the information.

Now can you clarify that? Let him clarify. You can go ahead and clarify. I just want to make sure we are clear. All of us need to understand this.

Commissioner Hall. Right. No, we do not have the information because we are just collecting the data. We are not trying to look to see where there are effects from the stimulus package.

Representative Brady. But you do not have the unemployment data?

Commissioner Hall. Sure we have the unemployment data.

Representative Brady. So when we ask you about the unemployment projections of the Administration, 8.1 percent versus the current unemployment rate of 9.4 percent, which you said was significantly—significant, you're saying you didn't have that data?

Commissioner Hall. Oh, no, we have that data. That is absolutely true. The unemployment rate of 9.4 percent is significantly different from 8.1.

Representative Brady. Well, the spin continues here, clearly.

Representative Cummings. Thank you very much. Mr. Casey.

Senator Casey. Mr. Chairman, thank you very much. I did not plan to get into this discussion, but I think it is very important when people are losing their jobs in record numbers that we are very clear what this hearing is about and what your job is in the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

So let me just go through a couple of things. Your job, and correct me if I am wrong, but your job is not to make job projections? Is that correct?

Commissioner Hall. That is correct.

Senator Casey. Your job is not to do analysis of the impact of the stimulus legislation? Is that correct?

Commissioner Hall. That's correct.

Senator Casey. Your job is not to speculate about the impact of any of the Administration's economic strategies? Is that correct?

Commissioner Hall. That's correct.

Senator Casey. You are Joe Friday. You are providing the facts every month about what the numbers tell you. Is that correct?

Commissioner Hall. That's correct.

Senator Casey. Okay. The rest of us can be something other than Joe Friday. We all have different jobs here.

But I wanted to go through a couple of numbers that I tend to ask about every month. First of all, there is some good news here. We see that nationally, the job loss number was about—I guess it was in March about 700,000? I have 699,000. I want to make sure we're in the right——

Commissioner Hall. Yes, it has been revised. It is 652,000 now.

Senator Casey [continuing]. Okay, 652,000 for March. And then for April the revised number is 504,000?

Commissioner Hall. Yes.

Senator Casey. And then this May number is 345,000?

Commissioner Hall. Yes.

Senator Casey. So 652,000 to 504,000 to 345,000. So that number is going down, thank God.

Commissioner Hall. Yes.

Senator Casey. But the rate, the percentage went from, what, 8.5 to 8.9 to 9.4?

Commissioner Hall. Correct.

Senator Casey. So the overall job loss number is going down and that is good news, but the bad news is the rate seems high. How do you—can you explain that, or analyze that for us?

Commissioner Hall. I would say that it is not uncommon for the two numbers to not be exactly in sync, not be telling exactly the same story——

Senator Casey. Okay.

Commissioner Hall [continuing]. Over a month. But what typically happens is in the next month or two I would guess that they would reconcile. Either the growth of the unemployment rate would slow down, or the job loss might pick up. But typically if they get out of sync, they get back into sync fairly quickly.

Senator Casey. Okay. The numbers that I wanted to ask about, which I ask every month, by way of comparison. African American unemployment rate went, the month to month, went from 15 to 14.9. So basically unchanged? Is that correct?

Commissioner Hall. That's correct, although it does hide the fact that the prior month it increased by 1.7 percentage points. So I would sort of say it increased significantly last month, and that number held this month. So it is not really good news.

Senator Casey. Okay. But in terms of African American versus White, the White unemployment rate is 8.6?

Commissioner Hall. Actually we left that out of our numbers here. I'm sure—that sounds correct.

Senator Casey. I just want to make that distinction between African American and White unemployment rate. And the Hispanic rate went up from 11.3 to 12.7? Is that correct?

Commissioner Hall. Correct.

Senator Casey. So that number has gone up. That is a substantial increase for one month. I'm not sure what that means, but does that hold any significance necessarily? I know month to month can be a little misleading.

Commissioner Hall. Yes. On the breakouts by demographics, some of the numbers move around a bit because it's not a really large sample size. So I would look more for the pattern over the last few months, and I think it is still being consistent with the rising unemployment rate overall.

Senator Casey. Okay. And finally, and then I am almost out of time, about a minute, in Pennsylvania our numbers in March and April were at 7.8, unchanged. We don't know the May State number yet. I will know that probably in two weeks. So fortunately in the last two months it has been steady.

But what I worry about, and what a lot of states are concerned about, is the impact of the troubles that GM and Chrysler have had. In our State it is not auto manufacturing jobs per se, it is really dealers and suppliers.

Any sense of where that is going? I know that in May the number I am seeing here is 29,800 jobs lost in auto manufacturing and parts supply. Again, I know it is not your job to prognosticate or to predict, but is there any indication that that 29,800 number is going to go up? I mean, logic would tell us it will go up because we will not see the full effect of the GM and Chrysler problems for some time, but do you have anything to add to that?

Commissioner Hall. Yes. I can say that this month's job loss in the autos and auto-related is pretty much consistent with the last few months. It is pretty much in the same ballpark that it has been.

Senator Casey. You mean we're losing about 30,000 jobs a month in that sector?

Commissioner Hall. Yes.

Senator Casey. Okay, thank you very much.

[The prepared statement of Robert P. Casey, Jr., appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 60.]

Representative Cummings. Thank you very much. Mr. Burgess for five minutes.

Representative Burgess. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Let's, just to finish up and close things up from Representative Brady's line of questions, the 150,000 job creation figure that Christina Romer cited, are those your statistics?

Commissioner Hall. No, they're not.

Representative Burgess. So those are statistics from press reports with wide distribution, but they're not BLS statistics? Is that correct?

Commissioner Hall. That's correct.

Representative Burgess. So it would be unusual for you to make projections based on that sort of number because that is not your number?

Commissioner Hall. Correct.

Representative Burgess. Let me ask you a question because we get a lot of conflicting information on this Committee and just in general and I know people are confused as to the direction of the economy. We hear economists talk. You all almost never agree on what you're—the direction that we are going.

We hear testimony in this Committee about green shoots, and then we hear testimony about yellow weeds. So tell us what it is. Are we seeing the green shoots? Or is the landscape still pretty barren?

Commissioner Hall. Well, I would say—overall I would say that the job loss was significant. It does seem to be a moderation over the job loss over the previous six months.

I suppose that's the good news. We still have a deteriorating labor market but it's not—it's not falling as quickly as it was before. I would say that's the one sign of encouragement here.

Representative Burgess. Now we have heard a lot this week of course about the government's takeover of General Motors, and prior to that the bankruptcy, the forced bankruptcy of Chrysler Corporation, and now we are hearing about the dealers that are losing their dealerships in this process.

Is that going to have an effect on what we see in reports that you're going to bring to this Committee over the summer months?

Commissioner Hall. It may well. Typically when we hear announcements of layoffs it usually takes a few months for those to actually occur and work their way into our data. I don't know specifically where we are in our numbers compared to the announcements.

Representative Burgess. And I know you can't comment on this, but I will just tell you, not as a Member of Congress but just as an American, it is usual to me. I find it unusual that the government is dictating the closure of automobile dealerships. I do find that troubling, and I hope that effect will be moderated over the coming months but I tend to be pessimistic about that.

As far as the government itself goes and the growth of government, we do hear a lot about that. Did government employment increase or decrease over the recent months?

Commissioner Hall. It was roughly flat. It decreased 7,000, but that is still roughly flat.

Representative Burgess. And what other—you mentioned health care I think as an industry sector that showed some increases. Were there any others?

Commissioner Hall. I think health care was probably the only major sector that had significant job growth.

Representative Burgess. And again I know you can't speculate, but if the government takes over health care then of course the health care growth will be in the government sector. I just had to point that out. I'm sorry.

Was there anything unusual in weather patterns over the past several weeks, or the past couple of months that would have an impact on the report that you have given to us today?

Commissioner Hall. I don't recall hearing any stories from our data collectors, or any stories from our industry analysts that weather was an impact.

Representative Burgess. What about, have there been any seasonal effects that would have an impact on these numbers that we have in front of us today?

Commissioner Hall. No, I don't——

Representative Burgess. We're coming off the winter. Actually you would probably expect jobs to increase this time of year, but then you also have people concluding school so the number of people out looking for jobs may increase. So a profound effect one way or the other?

Commissioner Hall [continuing]. Actually, these numbers are seasonally adjusted. So really what they are is we put them in the context of what's normal for this time of year. So there is a seasonal factor here.

Representative Burgess. But that's accounted for in the numbers?

Commissioner Hall. It is.

Representative Burgess. What about employment? Are there any significant gender differences that you've identified, male versus female employment?

Commissioner Hall. I think the pattern has been pretty consistent through this recession. The job loss by men versus women, is roughly 3 to 1 men versus women. That is actually typical of recessions. In fact, if anything the women's job loss is a little bit higher than it normally is during a recession.

Representative Burgess. And then as far as real hourly compensation, what have you seen as far as changes in real hourly compensation over the past year?

Commissioner Hall. Well the real pattern—let me talk about nominal, first. The nominal compensation, nominal wages during the expansion got up to almost 4 percent, and during this recession now the nominal wage growth has declined. We're roughly around 3.1 percent, something like that. That is typical of recessions.

Representative Burgess. 3.1 percent is a positive number or a negative number?

Commissioner Hall. It's a positive number. This is nominal.

Representative Burgess. Okay.

Commissioner Hall. And since energy prices have been going down—although now they're starting to tick up—what that's meant in the last few months is real wage growth, but that's been primarily because of declining energy prices not because of something that's going on in the labor market.

Representative Burgess. Okay. We just passed a big cap-and-trade bill. Will we be able to identify the green jobs when they show up?

Commissioner Hall. It's very difficult for us to do that at this point, primarily because the industries and occupations that we have got aren't designed to pull out green jobs. That is actually something that we may be able to do over time and adjust our measurement. It's a similar—to be honest with you, it's a similar sort of problem as we had say in the late 1990s with IT jobs.

Representative Burgess. But perhaps you can color-code your reports in the future as to the green jobs. I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

Representative Cummings. Thank you very much. Ms. Klobuchar for five minutes.

Senator Klobuchar. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Good to see you again, Commissioner Hall; enjoyed our hearing last month.

I think when we were talking last month at this hearing you had—we went through the statistics and the increases, and you indicated that we would continue to see this unemployment.

One of the things I just wanted to clarify in light of Congressman Brady's questions was the fact that I think since the start of the recession we have lost something like 7 million people have lost their jobs. When do you mark the start of this recession, this economic crisis?

Commissioner Hall. December ’07 was chosen by the NBER as the start of the recession. The first payroll job loss occurred in January 2008. So that has been a pretty good indicator I think for the recession.

Senator Klobuchar. So December ’07. So that was an entire year before President Obama took office? Is that correct?

Commissioner Hall. That’s correct.

Senator Klobuchar. All right. So we are at a 9.4 percent unemployment rate. And just as we talked about last month, these are real people who have lost their jobs.

I mentioned to you some stories last time, and I think we always have to remember this when we use these statistics. I heard just this week from a woman in Rice, Minnesota, who works to provide residential services for the disabled. She is a single mother of four and works two jobs, sometimes not coming home until 3:00 in the morning. She told me that she finds it hard to be a good mother to her children.

And one of the questions I had last time—and I want to continue on this vein—is when people look at these unemployment rates it is not just people that do not have any job at all, but we have seen a decrease in hours, and people who would like to have—they have a job, but it is not as extensive as they like. They are not getting as many hours as they would like.

What are those numbers this month?

Commissioner Hall. Sure. They are all telling a similar pattern in terms of a struggling labor market. The part-time for economic reasons we now have 9.1 million people who are part-time who would rather be full-time. That is an increase of 174,000. They are not included in the unemployment rate.

And discouraged workers, we have about nearly 800,000 discouraged workers. And that is an increase of almost 400,000 over the year.

Senator Klobuchar. Okay. So when you include those workers, when you include the discouraged workers, what is the unemployment rate then?

Commissioner Hall. It goes up to 16.4 percent.

Senator Klobuchar. And those are people who have just given up looking for a job?

Commissioner Hall. Yes. A combination of people who are either underemployed or have given up, and those who actually are unemployed and still looking.

Senator Klobuchar. And so when you say “underemployed,” does that include our people that don’t have as many hours in as they would like?

Commissioner Hall. No, it doesn’t.

Senator Klobuchar. So can you include those? Or is that too difficult?

Commissioner Hall. Well I guess it does in the sense that people who are working part-time who want to be full-time, they are counted.

Senator Klobuchar. Okay.

Commissioner Hall. But just—the same change in the hours, that is not reflected in here.

Senator Klobuchar. And you said earlier in your testimony that, as we look at different sectors that we still see the manufacturing way down. Where is construction? Have we seen any change in that over the last month?

Commissioner Hall. Yes, we had a little moderation in the job loss in construction.

Senator Klobuchar. Really? Okay. What was that?

Commissioner Hall. That dropped 59,000, which is a little bit better than it has been. 40,000 of that was nonresidential.

Senator Klobuchar. Okay. So where is that now, construction, the unemployment rate?

Commissioner Hall. I don't know it by industry.

Senator Klobuchar. Okay. One of the things we have talked about before is, one of the early indications to you that this was more than just a blip was that this was crossing across sectors, I remember you telling me, but also across geographic areas. While some states have it worse, it was really clear that it was going on across the United States and that is when we realized it was a year ago that this was going to be a big problem.

Our state now went, we lag about a month, but from the 8.2 percent down to 8.1 percent unemployment. Have you seen improvements in certain areas of the country in the last few months? Is there any kind of trend there?

Commissioner Hall. You know, I haven't—I haven't looked to see what the trend is like by state. Obviously the state unemployment numbers on average are consistent with the national numbers, so I would expect if there's been—well, there hasn't been much of an improvement in the unemployment rate yet, so I expect that they have all increased.

Senator Klobuchar. Where have you seen the—what are the highest unemployment rates? Which states, and what are they? And does this lag by a month? Or are these the current statistics?

Commissioner Hall. This one is lagging by a month.

Senator Klobuchar. Oh, okay.

Commissioner Hall. We will have them in a week or so. We have nine states now in double digits: Oregon, Michigan, North Carolina, South Carolina, Nevada, Rhode Island, California, Ohio, and Puerto Rico. They all have double digit unemployment rates right now.

Senator Klobuchar. So you see them really in all parts of the country.

Commissioner Hall. Yes.

Senator Klobuchar. But could it be possible that it is more focused with states that have more manufacturing, although Oregon I don't think fits that.

Commissioner Hall. Yeah, I think there is a bit of a correlation. Some of the manufacturing states actually started with higher unemployment rates, and they have also had a higher rise in unemployment.

Senator Klobuchar. Okay, I'll save some questions for the second round. Thank you.

Representative Cummings. Thank you very much.

Commissioner Hall, we have got a number of our constituents I'm sure watching you right now, and we've got young people coming out of college, and we've got folks who have lost their jobs. When you look at your statistics here, where would you say to them, if they were trying to find a job, what kind of areas might they want to look? Just based upon what you see here, what might be their best chances of getting employment?

Commissioner Hall. Right. It's hard for me to recommend something. The——

Representative Cummings. I'm not necessarily asking you to recommend. I'm just trying to see where the jobs are.

Commissioner Hall [continuing]. Sure. Certainly during the recession the only consistent job growth has been in health care, and maybe government a little bit. Almost everything else has seen some job loss. And in almost every sector now continues to see some job loss.

So it is hard to say, at least right now, where there is likely to be growth.

Representative Cummings. When I listen to your testimony—and I don't want us to have on rosy glasses, because I want us to be very realistic; we are dealing with the lives of people, and people trying to take care of the families, but I see numbers where people are losing 600,000-plus jobs in April I think, and then 500-and-some in the last few months, and then we go to 345,000. That seems to have some kind of significance.

I mean, any time you are cutting something in half, to me that sounds significant. But do you see it that way?

Commissioner Hall. Yes, I do. It is encouraging that the job loss has moderated. And while this is not good news, this is what we would hope to see on the way to good news. In other words, this is a labor market that is not falling as fast as it was before.

Representative Cummings. And one of the things that I believe is very important in all of this recovery that we are trying to exercise here is that there must be some kind of consumer confidence.

Is there a connection between the overall consumer confidence and the level of direction of unemployment rates?

Commissioner Hall. I would say yes, especially when you have large changes in consumer confidence. By far the most important thing in the economy is consumer spending. It is 70 percent of the economy. A good portion of the rest of the economy depends upon consumer spending.

So it is very significant if consumer confidence falls, or starts to rise, especially if it is rising from levels that we have seen lately. That is potentially a significant thing for the future.

Representative Cummings. So let's do some addition here. We have got a reduction in the rate of lost jobs, and of course here recently we had a spike in consumer confidence. You're aware of that?

Commissioner Hall. Yes.

Representative Cummings. Can we expect this good news to show up in unemployment numbers in the next few months? I mean, is that a reasonable expectation? Or is there any history of that kind of thing happening? Because, again we are trying to make sure the American—we want to give the American people an accurate picture. I don't want it too rosy; don't want it too—I just want it to be accurate.

Commissioner Hall. Right.

Representative Cummings. As best we can be that way, of course.

Commissioner Hall. I can say it this way. If consumer confidence leads to stronger consumer spending, that will lead to an improvement in the labor market.

Representative Cummings. And are the effects on consumer confidence confined to households that directly experience job loss?

Commissioner Hall. No, it's not. It's—there's a cycle when you start a recession where consumer spending goes down. Then you start to have job loss. And the job loss means further reduction in consumer spending. So there's this cycle downward.

Well there is also a cycle that can occur upwards. If consumer confidence and spending increases, then that slows the job loss and maybe gets the job gain. The job gain then means higher consumer spending. So you have this cycle working backwards.

Representative Cummings. So I mean to summarize what you just said, it sounds like we are moving in the right direction, maybe not as fast as we would like to, but at least we are moving in the right direction?

Commissioner Hall. Yes.

Representative Cummings. And how high would—you know, we have got the slow down in job loss but we have got an increase in unemployment. At what point does that—would you think that we would begin to see the unemployment come down in relationship to the job loss? I mean, what kind of numbers would you need to see for that to be the case?

Commissioner Hall. The way to think about it is we do need to see enough job growth to match the growth in the labor force, the growth in the population. So if we get job growth with something like 125,000 jobs a month, that is consistent with a constant unemployment rate.

Representative Cummings. I see.

Commissioner Hall. So we need to get it somewhere above that to start seeing the unemployment rate going down.

Representative Cummings. I see. My time has expired. Mr. Brady.

Representative Brady. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

You noted a moment ago the states with the highest unemployment rate, which brings to mind a report, a review of the stimulus spending done by *USA Today* recently where it said basically the states hit hardest by the recession has received only a few of the government's first stimulus contracts, even though the glut of new federal spending was meant to target places where the economic pain has been particularly severe.

A review of the nearly $4 billion in contracts that have been awarded by the massive stimulus package, according to this report and review, the government has spent only about $7.42 per person in states with high unemployment—the economies are worse there. North Dakota, with the lowest unemployment rate, has received about $26 per person.

So apparently those contracts are not going to the states that need it the most. That is consistent with a review by the Associated Press that pointed out here recently that states are planning to spend 50 percent more per person in areas with low unemployment than areas with the highest unemployment, to quote the AP. The early trend in the analysis runs counter to expectations raised by the President that road and infrastructure money from the historic $787 billion stimulus plan would create jobs in the areas most devastated by layoffs.

Does your analysis show in those high unemployment states, the ones that are struggling the most, that there has been an impact from these stimulus dollars? Is there anything, again going back to your numbers, is there anything in here that confirms or denies this type of analysis?

Commissioner Hall. We wouldn't be able to tell.

Representative Brady. The reason I ask—and I do think it is important to go to the numbers—is people back home really are struggling. Texas has a better economy than most, but we are feeling it as well. You talk to the retailers, they are not seeing an increase in consumption spending.

There are some activities in construction due to the infrastructure dollars, which we should have done far greater investment there than we did in squandering some of the money in the stimulus, but the reason I think it is important to go to the facts are that folks back home just want to know the truth.

You know, they hear the President's Director of the Budget, Peter Orszag, tell CNN that the effects of the stimulus would be felt in weeks to months. Larry Summers, Director of the National Economic Council, told CNN's Wolf Blitzer: You'll see effects begin almost immediately.

Christina Romer, in addition, along with the Vice President claimed 150,000 jobs have already been created. Said, we will turn the corner and we'll start adding jobs.

Then we've got the Press Secretary for the President saying the stimulus has already started to save and create jobs. The stimulus has already started to save and create jobs.

Yet, when you look at the numbers they just don't seem to bear that out. The unemployment rate being probably the most dramatic comparison of the claims of the Administration in the real economy.

As you bring reports to us in the future, is it possible for you to do deeper analysis on the effects of the stimulus, or of targeting those states with the higher unemployment rate so we can see if there is some impact that we ought to be encouraged by? And again, no spin. Just facts. How do we get to those facts?

Commissioner Hall. Yeah. We just aren't geared up, and it's really not our mission to do that sort of analysis. We are—to be honest, we are fully occupied just counting the number of jobs month by month. To put it in perspective, we are talking about 130- to 135 million payroll jobs that we are measuring every month here. So we just could not try to figure out the effects of the stimulus package in that.

As far as the states, obviously we produce the state-level data, but identifying the impact of some specific policy we really couldn't do.

Representative Brady. Okay. Well I appreciate the honesty on that. You talked about health care, you know, again a growing need in our country. Did government employment increase or decline this month?

Commissioner Hall. It was roughly flat. It declined by about 7 million. I can tell you, actually, for what it's worth, last month we got a bump of about 63—I'm sorry 7 thousand; I said 7 million. Census added about 63,000 employees last month——

Representative Brady. That would be a bump, 7 million. [Laughter.]

Commissioner Hall [continuing]. Yes.

Representative Brady. We got a bump last month because of the Census.

Commissioner Hall. Yes. Actually we lost about 18,000 because of Census this month and the U.S. Postal Service lost 13,000. So we took away, in fact all the decline in government employment was from Census.

Representative Brady. The losses, the 21,000 jobs lost from the auto manufacturing, that will be reflected in the future in the manufacturing sector?

Commissioner Hall. Yes.

Representative Brady. The jobs lost—last question—the jobs lost from dealerships being closed is reflected in the services?

Commissioner Hall. Yes, and under Retail Trade we've got Auto Dealerships.

Representative Brady. Okay. Great. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Representative Cummings. Thank you. Mr. Casey.

Senator Casey. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Just a brief comment on some of the points that Congressman Brady was making. At some point we are all going to know. We are going to know whether this recovery bill worked or didn't work, and you are either on one side or the other in terms of supporting it, and I am glad that I voted for it. And I believe that we are seeing a positive impact from it.

Can you back up that on every point with numbers? Probably not. But we are seeing it on the ground. There are projects started. There are jobs being created. But it is still kind of early to tell whether or not the recovery bill has had the impact we want it to have, but we will know soon enough.

There will be a history written of this time period, and one side or the other is going to be mostly right or mostly wrong. So I think it is a little early, but I know there is a debate about that.

I wanted to go back to one point in the unemployment rate for minorities, but in particular minority women as opposed to the White female number.

The unemployment rate for White females, do you have that number, as compared to African American women and Hispanic women?

Commissioner Hall. Sure. The unemployment rate for White women is 6.9 percent.

Senator Casey. 6.9.

Commissioner Hall. For African American women it is 11.2 percent.

Senator Casey. Okay, and how about, is the Hispanic female number 10.5?

Commissioner Hall. Yes.

Senator Casey. Okay, so we're seeing a gap there between—similar to the gap on overall White versus African American versus Hispanic. It is reflected as well in the female worker numbers.

Is there anything in the data that jumps out that explains that? Or is that typical in terms of the month to month or year to year job numbers? Because it is troubling that we have double figure numbers for minorities, double figure numbers both for minorities generally and in particular for subsets of that, as opposed to White male or female workers. But there may not be anything that you can tell us, but I was just curious to see if there is anything in the numbers that jumps out to explain that or to put that into context.

Commissioner Hall. No. In fact, that gap is typical during economic expansions, during recessions; it's just a gap that exists. And in fact during recessions the rise in unemployment for the minority groups typically rises further. So I don't have a ready explanation for it.

Senator Casey. Sure. No, thank you very much.

Representative Cummings. Ms. Klobuchar.

Senator Klobuchar. Thank you very much. One other area that we talked about last month, Commissioner Hall, was the area of Veterans unemployment. I think it is startling for people of the country to know that those that come back in the last few years, actually the unemployment rate of Veterans since the Gulf War is higher than the unemployment rate for people who have not served our country.

And part of that I believe is because when they leave they have a job, and then because they are gone, as the unemployment rate is going up and jobs are going away, it is harder for them to get a job when they come back.

I know that last month the unemployment rate for Veterans since the Gulf War was 10.3 percent, which includes the current Wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. What is that rate now?

Commissioner Hall. For May, the Gulf War era Veterans' unemployment rate is 11.4 percent.

Senator Klobuchar. So it actually, did it go up from last month then?

Commissioner Hall. I think that's correct. I don't have that data right in front of me. That's probably correct, but we can check on that if you like.

Senator Klobuchar. Yes, could you? I would just like to see how much it has gone up each month. Because I think it is a big concern that we keep having that happen.

Chairman Cummings asked you about young people, and what you say to young people about the foreseeable future, and I do appreciate some of the numbers that we have seen. And we have seen some that, as you say, we may be on the way to good news? Were those your words, something like that, in terms of some of the bottoming out here?

But one of the things I know we have talked about before is the unemployment rate for different degrees of education. So when we are talking to young people, I think it is important for them to understand what is the unemployment rate for high school dropouts this month?

Commissioner Hall. 15.5 percent.

Senator Klobuchar. 15.5 percent. And then what's the unemployment rate for high school graduates?

Commissioner Hall. 10 percent.

Senator Klobuchar. And then what is the unemployment rate for college graduates?

Commissioner Hall. 4.8 percent.

Senator Klobuchar. That is quite a difference. And I know one of the President's main focus here has been, I think he said that students should get at least one year of college, one year post-high school, or some kind of an advanced education. So you see this dramatic change from 15.5 to 10 percent to 4.8 percent, if you have a college degree. So there is a full difference going from 15.5, if you haven't graduated from high school, to 4.8 percent if you've graduated from college. Is that correct?

Commissioner Hall. That's correct.

Senator Klobuchar. The other thing that I've noticed as we look at some glimmers of hope here, we talked about our unemployment rate in Minnesota but the Commerce Department recently reported that pre-tax profits at U.S. corporations rose from $42.6 billion in the first quarter, to $1.3 trillion—the first quarterly increase after six straight declines.

Were you aware of those numbers?

Commissioner Hall. No, I wasn't.

Senator Klobuchar. This just came out recently. We do know that profitable companies are more likely to hire than those that are faltering. Have you seen this before in the rates for unemployment when you have more profitable companies that you will, not exactly that same month, but you may see more hiring in the future?

Commissioner Hall. I'm not sure at the company level, but I know on the national numbers you do tend to see, during early parts of an expansion, you do see the profits going up prior to the employment. But the employment does lag a little bit. But it almost always goes in that order.

Senator Klobuchar. Right. So that this fact that we have seen some better profitability rates for our companies, which is as I said it is the first—it is the first quarterly increase after six straight quarter declines. So that is after like a year-and-a-half. So this could be a good sign, if you believe my numbers, which I believe are accurate.

Commissioner Hall. Yes.

Senator Klobuchar. All right. And I know that Chairman Cummings brought up the consumer confidence. We talked about that a lot last month, because we have seen these increases in unemployment, but at the same time the consumer confidence number is going up, which may again help with people buying things? Is that right?

Commissioner Hall. That's correct.

Senator Klobuchar. So as we look at the glimmers of hope here, to summarize just from my perspective, we have the fact that the companies seem to be—not in every sector, but some of these companies seem to be evening out, or actually seeing some improvement.

We have consumer confidence up.

What are the other glimmers of hope that you see?

Commissioner Hall. I think to me a lot of it revolves around consumer spending. Even the profitability of companies relies on consumer spending picking up.

Like I say, having the consumer confidence tick up is a good sign. The consumer confidence doesn't always track well with consumer spending, but it does for major changes.

That's the sort of thing I think that I find encouraging. I don't know how I would judge the housing market, but that is going to be an important thing probably in the recovery going forward.

Senator Klobuchar. Yes. Do you have any statistics on that? Because actually I had some realtors in my office from Minnesota, like 30 of them, and they had been very glum every time they came in every six months, and suddenly they were in very upbeat moods compared to how they were before. And they said that they were starting to sell a number of first-time homes.

They said the tax credit was incredibly helpful, the $8000 tax credit; that is, as we reach the end of the year, that a lot of younger people or first-time home buyers were starting to buy. You would most likely not have those statistics, or do you?

Commissioner Hall. Yeah, you know I don't have the statistics right in front of me but I have a rough notion that certainly the inventory of new home sales is still pretty high. I think it's something like a year's worth of inventory. But I think it is kind of like the jobs growth. It is not as high as it was, but it is still high.

Senator Klobuchar. Exactly.

Commissioner Hall. So I haven't looked at the numbers really carefully lately, but my general impression is that I agree with you, that there maybe are some indications that the decline in housing is slowing.

Senator Klobuchar. All right. Well thank you very much, Commissioner Hall.

Representative Cummings. Just one last few questions of Mr. Hall. According to a study by the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, I just want to piggyback on some of the excellent questions of Ms. Klobuchar.

The rising cost of college even before the recession threatened to put higher education out of reach for most Americans. The report found that published college tuition and fees increased 439 percent from 1982 to 2007, while median income rose 147 percent.

Student borrowing has more than doubled in the last decade, and students from lower income families on the average get smaller grants from the colleges they attend than students from more affluent families.

The New York Times recently reported that in the face of shrinking endowments colleges are looking more favorably upon wealthier students as they make their admissions decisions this year. Even institutions that have pledged to admit students regardless of financial need are finding ways of increasing the number of students who will pay the full cost of tuition. And state and local government budget deficits will probably mean that state college and community college tuitions will have to rise.

In light of the questions Ms. Klobuchar asked about dropouts, high school graduates, and college graduates, given the factors I just stated, isn't it likely that income disparities will grow if only wealthier families can afford to send their children to college?

Commissioner Hall. The benefits to education, people with higher education have higher wages, they have lower unemployment rates, they have high labor force participation rates, that's been going on for decades and that is not likely to change in the future.

So——

Representative Cummings. So in other words, the more education you have——

Commissioner Hall. Yes.

Representative Cummings [continuing]. The less you are likely to lose your job.

Commissioner Hall. Correct.

Representative Cummings. And was that true in the 1980s and 1970s?

Commissioner Hall. It was. It's been true for decades.

Representative Cummings. And if workers who are less educated are more likely to lose their jobs currently and therefore less able to be able to send their children to college, what does that mean about income disparities for the next generations, with all other things being equal?

Commissioner Hall. Sure. Well obviously uneven access to education means you have uneven outcomes in the labor market. I think that is a safe thing to say, and that will probably continue to be true.

Representative Cummings. Very well. Do you have anything else, Mr. Brady?

Representative Brady. No, sir.

Representative Cummings. Ms. Klobuchar.

Senator Klobuchar. No, I don't.

Representative Cummings. I want to thank you, Mr. Hall, very much. I think Ms. Klobuchar pretty much summarized it. It is good to hear some news that is not going in the negative direction. We certainly are—you know, you have given us a few things to feel a bit optimistic about, and hopefully when we see you next month we will have even better news. But thank you, very much.

Commissioner Hall. Thank you.

Representative Cummings. We're adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 10:44 a.m., Friday, June 5, 2009, the hearing was adjourned.]

SUBMISSIONS FOR THE RECORD

PREPARED STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

Good morning. I would like to thank Chair Maloney for holding this hearing.

I also welcome Commissioner Hall and his colleagues from the Bureau of Labor Statistics to brief us on the most recent employment data.

This morning's release reported May job losses totaling 345,000—almost half of the losses in recent months, but an unemployment rate of 9.4 percent—a jump of half a percentage from the previous month.

Adding up discouraged workers and part-time workers who cannot find full time employment, the unemployment rate jumps to 16.4 percent, the highest rate since the government started collecting this information in 1994.

However, it was also announced recently that the continuing jobless claims for the week ending May 23rd fell, a consumer confidence index experienced a small uptick, and the European Central Bank held interest rates steady yesterday, signaling expectations that the global economy may have bottomed out.

I am encouraged by marginal improvements like consumer confidence, but even this good sign is accompanied by a sobering counterpoint.

Increased consumer spending has yet to translate into actual spending by consumers or businesses. Rather, families are saving, and I don't blame them.

They see that more than 1 in 4 unemployed workers has been unemployed for over six months, and that the median duration of unemployment is now 14.9 weeks, a record high since the series started in 1967.

The cumulative effects of the recession—17 consecutive months of job loss, totaling 6 million jobs—have left these ordinary, hard-working Americans on precarious footing.

When a worker is laid off, economists say the person experiences an "income shock." This is a vast understatement.

Now unemployed, families must work through any savings they have accrued to pay bills and continue to feed their children; and then as home values fall and mortgages go unpaid, they are suddenly looking foreclosure in the face.

While the foreclosure crisis started with homes that fell victim to plunging values, and then moved to the subprime sector and borrowers facing interest rate hikes, now prime borrowers have been affected as well.

The New York Times wrote on May 24th that this "third wave" of foreclosures can be attributed in large part to the rising tide of unemployment.

Fortunately, for many homeowners, some degree of help is available. We have strong mortgage modification programs in place that allow homeowners to decrease their payments and work out solutions to stay in their homes.

For the unemployed, however, when home values fall, a mortgage modification will take them only so far. What a modification cannot do is bring back an income or health insurance.

So, without new and creative ways to help the unemployed, these Americans may still lose their homes.

We also know that a job loss doesn't just affect the individual employee and his or her home. Surrounding home values fall with each foreclosure, and some cities have seen more than 100 foreclosures every day.

Further, our safety nets are stretched thin, and that is all some folks have.

I read yesterday in *USA Today* that 1 of every 6 dollars of Americans' income is from unemployment, social security, or other public benefits. Further, ProPublica reported that 14 states have already gone through available unemployment reserve funds. So, the effects of unemployment are being felt in so many places, by all of us.

Accordingly—this Congress and President Obama have taken decisive action against the recession through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, as well as legislation addressing predatory mortgage lending and unfair credit card practices.

We are also helping people at the local level. Tomorrow, in Baltimore, we are putting over 200 borrowers together with 19 lenders to try to work out mortgage solutions.

I hope every one who shows up can save his or her home. But I suspect that will not be the case, as the unemployed still may not qualify for modifications.

Knowing this, I look forward to the testimony of Dr. Hall, as we must understand exactly where we are in this crisis and just how far we have to go.

PREPARED STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE KEVIN BRADY, SENIOR HOUSE REPUBLICAN

I am pleased to join in welcoming Commissioner Hall before the Committee this morning.

The increase in the unemployment rate to a level of 9.4 percent is disturbing for several reasons. First, the higher unemployment rate reflects greater hardship for American workers and their families. Second, the higher unemployment rate, along with other economic data, reflects the continuing weakness in the economy. Third, the higher unemployment rate underscores the unrealistic nature of the Administration's economic assumptions based on the idea that the stimulus spending would cap rising unemployment.

The payroll employment decline reported today also shows that the economy continues to contract. The 345,000 drop in May payroll employment is a significant monthly job loss and is broadly based in many industries. Although the overall pace of job loss was not as terrible as in recent months, manufacturing continued to suffer large employment declines.

There is some tentative evidence suggesting that the economy may bottom out in coming months. For example, financial market conditions have improved, some measures of manufacturing activity have stabilized, and some data related to housing and construction are less negative. However, measures to prevent foreclosures are not working well, and re-default rates are very high, with more loan losses to come. Business investment has collapsed, and commercial real estate continues to be under stress. Consumer spending is weak, and exports are falling as many of our major trading partners also experience recession.

I continue to be concerned about the Administration's unrealistic economic assumptions which were the basis for the President's budget proposal. *The Economist* magazine called these economic assumptions "dangerous" because they understate the true cost of the Administration's deficit spending and debt accumulation. Unfortunately, according to CBO, Administration policies will triple the national debt to a level of $17.3 trillion by 2019. This avalanche of government deficits and debt is one reason long-term interest rates, including mortgage rates, are on the rise.

A central problem is that the Administration assumed that its stimulus spending spree would significantly improve the economy. For example, last January two top Administration economists projected that the unemployment rate would not exceed 8.0 percent in 2009 or 2010 if the stimulus was enacted. The Administration followed up by forecasting an average unemployment rate of 8.1 percent for all of 2009. However, the current level of the unemployment rate above 9 percent is enough to show that the Administration's assumptions about the positive impact of the stimulus were wrong. If the Administration's forecast were internally consistent, this would also indicate that GDP will be lower than projected.

An economic upturn should occur by next year, if only due to the huge amounts of money and credit injected into the economy by the Federal Reserve. However, the economic recovery probably will be quite weak, and not consistent with the White House's rosy scenario for 2010. What will be the sources of economic growth next year?

With many households forced to pay down debt, a surge in consumption is not likely. Excessive levels of government spending and debt are already rattling financial markets, so much more government stimulus spending is not a feasible option. U.S. exports may be constrained by weakness in other countries, and by retaliation against our trade policies. That leaves investment as a main source of growth, but how many will undertake long-term investments when facing a tidal wave of new taxes, entitlement spending, and inflation? Future economic growth will rely heavily on investment, but more taxes, government borrowing, regulation, and inflation all will hit investors very hard.

Government is not evil, and up to a point provides more benefits than costs, but beyond this point becomes counterproductive. Policymakers should understand that excessive government does have the potential to choke off healthy economic and employment growth. If the long-term rate of economic growth is reduced from 3 percent to 2 percent or below, the result will be much slower job growth, and higher levels of unemployment. Congress should wake up to the damage that it is inflicting and stop enacting legislation that only increases the burden of government on the economy.

PREPARED STATEMENT OF KEITH HALL, COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss the employment and unemployment data that we released this morning.

Nonfarm payroll employment declined by 345,000 in May. Job losses had averaged 643,000 per month during the prior 6 months. In May, the unemployment rate rose from 8.9 to 9.4 percent. Since the recession began in December 2007, payroll employment has fallen by 6.0 million, and the unemployment rate has increased by 4.5 percentage points.

Job losses continued to be widespread in May, but the rate of decline moderated in construction and several service-providing industries. Large job losses continued in the manufacturing sector (−156,000), with employment declines in nearly all component industries. Employment fell sharply in motor vehicles and parts (−30,000), machinery (−26,000), and fabricated metals (−19,000). Since the start of the recession, manufacturing employment has decreased by 1.8 million, accounting for 3 out of 10 jobs lost during this downturn.

Construction employment declined by 59,000 in May, half the average of the previous 6 months. Job losses moderated in the private service-providing industries, with employment falling by 113,000 in May compared with an average monthly decline of 356,000 in the prior 6 months. Employment was little changed in temporary help, retail trade, and leisure and hospitality, following large declines in recent months.

Elsewhere in the service-providing sector, the health care industry added 24,000 jobs in May. This was about in line with the trend thus far in 2009.

In May, average hourly earnings for production and nonsupervisory workers in the private sector were up by 2 cents to $18.54. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings have risen by 3.1 percent. From April 2008 to April 2009, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers declined by 1.2 percent.

Turning to measures from the survey of households, the unemployment rate increased from 8.9 to 9.4 percent over the month. The number of unemployed rose by 787,000 to 14.5 million. Since the recession began, the jobless rate has increased by 4.5 percentage points, and the number of unemployed persons has grown by 7.0 million.

Among the unemployed, the number who have been out of work 27 weeks or more increased by 268,000 in May to 3.9 million. These long-term unemployed represented 2.5 percent of the labor force, the highest proportion since 1983.

Over the month, the employment-population ratio edged down to 59.7 percent, the lowest level since October 1984. Since the recession began, the employment-population ratio has fallen by 3.0 percentage points.

Among the employed, the number of persons working part time who would prefer full-time work was little changed for the second consecutive month. At 9.1 million in May, involuntary part-time employment was 4.4 million higher than at the start of the recession.

Among those outside the labor force—that is, persons neither working nor looking for work—the number of discouraged workers was 792,000 in May, up from 400,000 a year earlier. These individuals are not currently looking for work because they believe no jobs are available for them.

In summary, nonfarm payroll employment fell by 345,000 in May, compared with the average monthly decline of 643,000 for the previous 6 months. While job losses continued to be widespread, declines moderated in construction and in a number of service-providing industries. The unemployment rate rose by half a percentage point to 9.4 percent.

My colleagues and I now would be glad to answer your questions.

News

United States Department of Labor

Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington, D.C. 20212

Technical information:		
Household data:	(202) 691-6378 http://www.bls.gov/cps/	USDL 09-0588
Establishment data:	(202) 691-6555 http://www.bls.gov/ces/	Transmission of material in this release is embargoed until 8:30 A.M. (EDT), Friday, June 5, 2009.
Media contact:	(202) 691-5902	

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: MAY 2009

Nonfarm payroll employment fell by 345,000 in May, about half the average monthly decline for the prior 6 months, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The unemployment rate continued to rise, increasing from 8.9 to 9.4 percent. Steep job losses continued in manufacturing, while declines moderated in construction and several service-providing industries.

Chart 1. Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted, May 2007 – May 2009

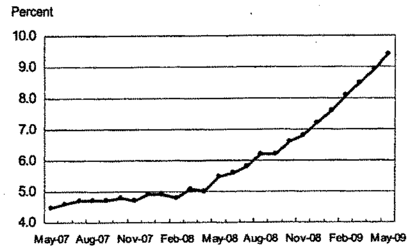
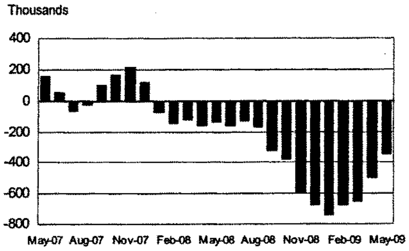


Chart 2. Nonfarm payroll employment over-the-month change, seasonally adjusted, May 2007 – May 2009



Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

The number of unemployed persons increased by 787,000 to 14.5 million in May, and the unemployment rate rose to 9.4 percent. Since the start of the recession in December 2007, the number of unemployed persons has risen by 7.0 million, and the unemployment rate has grown by 4.5 percentage points. (See table A-1.)

Unemployment rates rose in May for adult men (9.8 percent), adult women (7.5 percent), whites (8.6 percent), and Hispanics (12.7 percent). The jobless rates for teenagers (22.7 percent) and blacks (14.9 percent) were little changed over the month. The unemployment rate for Asians was 6.7 percent in May, not seasonally adjusted, up from 3.8 percent a year earlier. (See tables A-1, A-2, and A-3.)

Table A. Major indicators of labor market activity, seasonally adjusted
(Numbers in thousands)

Category	Quarterly averages		Monthly data			Apr.-May change
	IV 2008	I 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2009	
HOUSEHOLD DATA	Labor force status					
Civilian labor force	154,648	153,993	154,048	154,731	155,081	350
Employment	144,046	141,578	140,887	141,007	140,570	-437
Unemployment	10,602	12,415	13,161	13,724	14,511	787
Not in labor force	80,177	80,920	81,038	80,541	80,371	-170
	Unemployment rates					
All workers	6.9	8.1	8.5	8.9	9.4	0.5
Adult men	6.8	8.2	8.8	9.4	9.8	.4
Adult women	5.6	6.7	7.0	7.1	7.5	.4
Teenagers	20.7	21.3	21.7	21.5	22.7	1.2
White	6.3	7.4	7.9	8.0	8.6	.6
Black or African American	11.5	13.1	13.3	15.0	14.9	-.1
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	8.9	10.7	11.4	11.3	12.7	1.4
ESTABLISHMENT DATA	Employment					
Nonfarm employment	135,727	133,662	133,000	p 132,496	p 132,151	p -345
Goods-producing [1]	20,803	19,826	19,520	p 19,246	p 19,021	p -225
Construction	6,949	6,590	6,470	p 6,362	p 6,303	p -59
Manufacturing	13,062	12,468	12,296	p 12,142	p 11,986	p -156
Service-providing [1]	114,924	113,835	113,480	p 113,250	p 113,130	p -120
Retail trade [2]	15,127	14,933	14,872	p 14,836	p 14,818	p -18
Professional and business service	17,485	17,048	16,910	p 16,799	p 16,748	p -51
Education and health services	19,035	19,138	19,158	p 19,171	p 19,215	p 44
Leisure and hospitality	13,348	13,235	13,202	p 13,164	p 13,167	p 3
Government	22,538	22,543	22,543	p 22,635	p 22,628	p -7
	Hours of work [3]					
Total private	33.4	33.2	33.1	p 33.2	p 33.1	p -0.1
Manufacturing	40.2	39.6	39.4	p 39.5	p 39.3	p -.2
Overtime	3.2	2.7	2.6	p 2.7	p 2.7	p .0
	Indexes of aggregate weekly hours (2002=100) [3]					
Total private	104.1	101.7	100.7	p 100.4	p 99.7	p -0.7
	Earnings [3]					
Average hourly earnings, total private	$18.34	$18.46	$18.50	p $18.52	p $18.54	p $0.02
Average weekly earnings, total private	612.55	613.60	612.35	p 614.86	p 613.67	p -1.19

[1] Includes other industries, not shown separately.
[2] Quarterly averages and the over-the-month change are calculated using unrounded data.
[3] Data relate to private production and nonsupervisory workers.
p = preliminary.

Among the unemployed, the number of job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs rose by 732,000 in May to 9.5 million. This group has increased by 5.8 million since the start of the recession. (See table A-8.)

The number of long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more) increased by 268,000 over the month to 3.9 million and has tripled since the start of the recession. (See table A-9.)

Total Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

In May, the civilian labor force participation rate was about unchanged at 65.9 percent. The employment-population ratio, at 59.7 percent, continued to trend down. The ratio has declined by 3.0 percentage points since December 2007. (See table A-1.)

The number of persons working part time for economic reasons (sometimes referred to as involuntary part-time workers) was little changed in May at 9.1 million. The number of such workers has risen by 4.4 million during the recession. (See table A-5.)

Persons Not in the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

About 2.2 million persons (not seasonally adjusted) were marginally attached to the labor force in May, 794,000 more than a year earlier. These individuals wanted and were available for work and had looked for a job sometime in the prior 12 months. They were not counted as unemployed because they had not searched for work in the 4 weeks preceding the survey. Among the marginally attached, there were 792,000 discouraged workers in May, up by 392,000 from a year earlier. Discouraged workers are persons not currently looking for work because they believe no jobs are available for them. The other 1.4 million persons marginally attached to the labor force in May had not searched for work in the 4 weeks preceding the survey for reasons such as school attendance or family responsibilities. (See table A-13.)

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

Total nonfarm payroll employment declined by 345,000 in May to 132.2 million. The decline was about half of the average monthly job loss for the prior 6 months (-643,000). Since the recession began in December 2007, payroll employment has fallen by 6.0 million. In May, job losses continued to be widespread across major industry sectors. Steep job losses continued in manufacturing, while the rate of decline moderated in several industries, including construction, professional and business services, and retail trade. (See table B-1.)

Manufacturing employment fell by 156,000 in May. Job losses occurred in most component industries. Three durable goods industries—motor vehicles and parts (-30,000), machinery (-26,000), and fabricated metal products (-19,000)—accounted for about half of the overall decline in factory employment. Since its most recent peak in February 2000, employment in motor vehicles and parts has fallen by about 50 percent. Mining shed 11,000 jobs in May, about the same number as in April.

Employment in construction decreased by 59,000 in May, compared with an average monthly job loss of 117,000 in the industry for the previous 6 months. In May, employment fell in nonresidential specialty trade contractors (-30,000) and in residential construction of buildings (-11,000).

Job losses in professional and business services moderated in May, with the industry shedding 51,000 jobs. This compares with an average loss of 136,000 jobs per month in the prior 6 months. The temporary help services industry, which had been dropping an average of 73,000 jobs per month over this period, saw little employment change in May (-7,000).

Employment in leisure and hospitality was flat over the month. The industry had lost an average of 39,000 jobs per month during the prior 6 months.

Retail trade employment was down by 18,000 in May; job cutbacks in retail trade have moderated markedly in the past 2 months. Employment in wholesale trade fell by 22,000 over the month, with over half of the decrease (-14,000) among durable goods wholesalers.

Financial activities employment continued to decrease in May (-30,000). Securities lost 10,000 jobs and real estate lost 9,000. Employment in credit intermediation continued to trend down, although the May job loss was well below the average job loss for the prior 6 months. Employment in information decreased by 24,000 in May.

Health care employment increased by 24,000 in May, about in line with its average monthly job growth so far in 2009. Employment in government changed little in May.

The change in total nonfarm employment for March was revised from -699,000 to -652,000, and the change for April was revised from -539,000 to -504,000.

Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

In May, the average workweek for production and nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls edged down by 0.1 hour to 33.1 hours, seasonally adjusted. The manufacturing workweek decreased by 0.2 hour to 39.3 hours, and factory overtime was unchanged at 2.7 hours. (See table B-2.)

The index of aggregate weekly hours of production and nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls fell by 0.7 percent in May. The manufacturing index declined by 2.1 percent over the month. (See table B-5.)

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

In May, average hourly earnings of production and nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls were essentially unchanged at $18.54, seasonally adjusted. Over the past 12 months, average hourly earnings increased by 3.1 percent, while average weekly earnings rose by only 1.2 percent, reflecting a decline in the average workweek. (See table B-3.)

The Employment Situation for June 2009 is scheduled to be released on **Thursday, July 2, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT)**.

Frequently Asked Questions about Employment and Unemployment Estimates

Why are there two monthly measures of employment?

The household survey and establishment survey both produce sample-based estimates of employment and both have strengths and limitations. The establishment survey employment series has a smaller margin of error on the measurement of month-to-month change than the household survey because of its much larger sample size. An over-the-month employment change of 107,000 is statistically significant in the establishment survey, while the threshold for a statistically significant change in the household survey is about 400,000. However, the household survey has a more expansive scope than the establishment survey because it includes the self-employed, unpaid family workers, agricultural workers, and private household workers, who are excluded by the establishment survey. The household survey also provides estimates of employment for demographic groups.

Are undocumented immigrants counted in the surveys?

Neither the establishment nor household survey is designed to identify the legal status of workers. Thus, while it is likely that both surveys include at least some undocumented immigrants, it is not possible to determine how many are counted in either survey. The household survey does include questions about whether respondents were born outside the United States. Data from these questions show that foreign-born workers accounted for 15.6 percent of the labor force in 2008.

Why does the establishment survey have revisions?

The establishment survey revises published estimates to improve its data series by incorporating additional information that was not available at the time of the initial publication of the estimates. The establishment survey revises its initial monthly estimates twice, in the immediately succeeding 2 months, to incorporate additional sample receipts from respondents in the survey and recalculated seasonal adjustment factors. For more information on the monthly revisions, please visit http://www.bls.gov/ces/cesrevinfo.htm.

On an annual basis, the establishment survey incorporates a benchmark revision that re-anchors estimates to nearly complete employment counts available from unemployment insurance tax records. The benchmark helps to control for sampling and modeling errors in the estimates. For more information on the annual benchmark revision, please visit http://www.bls.gov/web/cesbmart.htm.

Does the establishment survey sample include small firms?

Yes; about 40 percent of the establishment survey sample is comprised of business establishments with fewer than 20 employees. The establishment survey sample is designed to maximize the reliability of the total nonfarm employment estimate; firms from all size classes and industries are appropriately sampled to achieve that goal.

Does the establishment survey account for employment from new businesses?

Yes; monthly establishment survey estimates include an adjustment to account for the net employment change generated by business births and deaths. The adjustment comes from an econometric model that forecasts the monthly net jobs impact of business births and deaths based on the actual past values of the net impact that can be observed with a lag from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. The establishment survey uses modeling rather than sampling for this purpose because the survey is not immediately able to bring new businesses into the sample. There is an unavoidable lag between the birth of a new firm and its appearance on the sampling frame and availability for selection. BLS adds new businesses to the survey twice a year.

Is the count of unemployed persons limited to just those people receiving unemployment insurance benefits?

No; the estimate of unemployment is based on a monthly sample survey of households. All persons who are without jobs and are actively seeking and available to work are included among the unemployed. (People on temporary layoff are included even if they do not actively seek work.) There is no requirement or question relating to unemployment insurance benefits in the monthly survey.

Does the official unemployment rate exclude people who have stopped looking for work?

Yes; however, there are separate estimates of persons outside the labor force who want a job, including those who have stopped looking because they believe no jobs are available (discouraged workers). In addition, alternative measures of labor underutilization (discouraged workers and other groups not officially counted as unemployed) are published each month in the Employment Situation news release.

Technical Note

This news release presents statistics from two major surveys, the Current Population Survey (household survey) and the Current Employment Statistics survey (establishment survey). The household survey provides the information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment that appears in the A tables, marked HOUSEHOLD DATA. It is a sample survey of about 60,000 households conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

The establishment survey provides the information on the employment, hours, and earnings of workers on nonfarm payrolls that appears in the B tables, marked ESTABLISHMENT DATA. This information is collected from payroll records by BLS in cooperation with state agencies. The sample includes about 160,000 businesses and government agencies covering approximately 400,000 individual worksites. The active sample includes about one-third of all nonfarm payroll workers. The sample is drawn from a sampling frame of unemployment insurance tax accounts.

For both surveys, the data for a given month relate to a particular week or pay period. In the household survey, the reference week is generally the calendar week that contains the 12th day of the month. In the establishment survey, the reference period is the pay period including the 12th, which may or may not correspond directly to the calendar week.

Coverage, definitions, and differences between surveys

Household survey. The sample is selected to reflect the entire civilian noninstitutional population. Based on responses to a series of questions on work and job search activities, each person 16 years and over in a sample household is classified as employed, unemployed, or not in the labor force.

People are classified as employed if they did any work at all as paid employees during the reference week; worked in their own business, profession, or on their own farm; or worked without pay at least 15 hours in a family business or farm. People are also counted as employed if they were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, bad weather, vacation, labor-management disputes, or personal reasons.

People are classified as unemployed if they meet all of the following criteria: They had no employment during the reference week; they were available for work at that time; and they made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the 4-week period ending with the reference week. Persons laid off from a job and expecting recall need not be looking for work to be counted as unemployed. The unemployment data derived from the household survey in no way depend upon the eligibility for or receipt of unemployment insurance benefits.

The civilian labor force is the sum of employed and unemployed persons. Those not classified as employed or unemployed are *not in the labor force*. The *unemployment rate* is the number unemployed as a percent of the labor force. The *labor force participation rate* is the labor force as a percent of the population, and the *employment-population ratio* is the employed as a percent of the population.

Establishment survey. The sample establishments are drawn from private nonfarm businesses such as factories, offices, and stores, as well as federal, state, and local government entities. *Employees on nonfarm payrolls* are those who received pay for any part of the reference pay period, including persons on paid leave. Persons are counted in each job they hold. *Hours and earnings* data are for private businesses and relate only to production workers in the goods-producing sector and nonsupervisory workers in the service-providing sector. Industries are classified on the basis of their principal activity in accordance with the 2007 version of the North American Industry Classification System.

Differences in employment estimates. The numerous conceptual and methodological differences between the household and establishment surveys result in important distinctions in the employment estimates derived from the surveys. Among these are:

- The household survey includes agricultural workers, the self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers among the employed. These groups are excluded from the establishment survey.

- The household survey includes people on unpaid leave among the employed. The establishment survey does not.

- The household survey is limited to workers 16 years of age and older. The establishment survey is not limited by age.

- The household survey has no duplication of individuals, because individuals are counted only once, even if they hold more than one job. In the establishment survey, employees working at more than one job and thus appearing on more than one payroll would be counted separately for each appearance.

Seasonal adjustment

Over the course of a year, the size of the nation's labor force and the levels of employment and unemployment undergo sharp fluctuations due to such seasonal events as changes in weather, reduced or expanded production, harvests, major holidays, and the opening and closing of schools. The effect of such seasonal variation can be very large; seasonal fluctuations may account for as much as 95 percent of the month-to-month changes in unemployment.

Because these seasonal events follow a more or less regular pattern each year, their influence on statistical trends can be eliminated by adjusting the statistics from month to month. These adjustments make nonseasonal developments, such as declines in economic activity or increases in the participation of women in the labor force, easier to spot. For example, the large number of youth entering the labor force each June is likely to obscure any other changes that have taken place relative to May, making it difficult to determine if the level of economic activity has risen or declined. However, because the effect of students finishing school in previous years is known, the statistics for the current year can be adjusted to allow for a comparable change. Insofar as the seasonal adjustment is made correctly, the adjusted figure provides a more useful tool with which to analyze changes in economic activity.

Most seasonally adjusted series are independently adjusted in both the household and establishment surveys. However, the adjusted series for many major estimates, such as total payroll employment, employment in most supersectors, total employment, and unemployment are computed by aggregating independently adjusted component series. For example, total unemployment is derived by summing the adjusted series for four major age-sex components; this differs from the unemployment estimate that would be obtained by directly adjusting the total or by combining the duration, reasons, or more detailed age categories.

For both the household and establishment surveys, a concurrent seasonal adjustment methodology is used in which new seasonal factors are calculated each month, using all relevant data, up to and including the data for the current month. In the household survey, new seasonal factors are used to adjust only the current month's data. In the establishment survey, however, new seasonal factors are used each month to adjust the three most recent monthly estimates. In both surveys, revisions to historical data are made once a year.

Reliability of the estimates

Statistics based on the household and establishment surveys are subject to both sampling and nonsampling error. When a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed, there is a chance that the sample estimates may differ from the "true" population values they represent. The exact difference, or *sampling error*, varies depending on the particular sample selected, and this variability is measured by the standard error of the estimate. There is about a 90-percent chance, or level of confidence, that an estimate based on a sample will differ by no more than 1.6 standard errors from the "true" population value because of sampling error. BLS analyses are generally conducted at the 90-percent level of confidence.

For example, the confidence interval for the monthly change in total employment from the household survey is on the order of plus or minus 430,000. Suppose the estimate of total employment increases by 100,000 from one month to the next. The 90-percent confidence interval on the monthly change would range from -330,000 to 530,000 (100,000 +/- 430,000). These figures do not mean that the sample results are off by these magnitudes, but rather that there is about a 90-percent chance that the "true" over-the-month change lies within this interval. Since this range includes values of less than zero, we could not say with confidence that employment had, in fact, increased. If, however, the reported employment rise was half a million, then all of the values within the 90-percent confidence interval would be greater than zero. In this case, it is likely (at least a 90-percent chance) that an employment rise had, in fact, occurred. At an unemployment rate of around 5.5 percent, the 90-percent confidence interval for the monthly change in unemployment is about +/-280,000, and for the monthly change in the unemployment rate it is about +/-.19 percentage point.

In general, estimates involving many individuals or establishments have lower standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) than estimates which are based on a small number of observations. The precision of estimates is also improved when the data are cumulated over time such as for quarterly and annual averages. The seasonal adjustment process can also improve the stability of the monthly estimates.

The household and establishment surveys are also affected by *nonsampling error*. Nonsampling errors can occur for many reasons, including the failure to sample a segment of the population, inability to obtain information for all respondents in the sample, inability or unwillingness of respondents to provide correct information on a timely basis, mistakes made by respondents, and errors made in the collection or processing of the data.

For example, in the establishment survey, estimates for the most recent 2 months are based on incomplete returns; for this reason, these estimates are labeled preliminary in the tables. It is only after two successive revisions to a monthly estimate, when nearly all sample reports have been received, that the estimate is considered final.

Another major source of nonsampling error in the establishment survey is the inability to capture, on a timely basis, employment generated by new firms. To correct for this systematic underestimation of employment growth, an estimation procedure with two components is used to account for business births. The first component uses business deaths to impute employment for business births. This is incorporated into the sample-based link relative estimate procedure by simply not reflecting sample units going out of business, but imputing to them the same trend as the other firms in the sample. The second component is an ARIMA time series model designed to estimate the residual net birth/death employment not accounted for by the imputation. The historical time series used to create and test the ARIMA model was derived from the unemployment insurance universe micro-level database, and reflects the actual residual net of births and deaths over the past 5 years.

The sample-based estimates from the establishment survey are adjusted once a year (on a lagged basis) to universe counts of payroll employment obtained from administrative records of the unemployment insurance program. The difference between the March sample-based employment estimates and the March universe counts is known as a benchmark revision, and serves as a rough proxy for total survey error. The new benchmarks also incorporate changes in the classification of industries. Over the past decade, absolute benchmark revisions for total nonfarm employment have averaged 0.2 percent, with a range from 0.1 percent to 0.6 percent.

Other information

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; TDD message referral phone: 1-800-877-8339.

Table A-1. Employment status of the civilian population by sex and age

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, sex, and age	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted [1]					
	May 2008	Apr. 2009	May 2009	May 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2009
TOTAL									
Civilian noninstitutional population	233,405	235,271	235,452	233,405	234,739	234,913	235,086	235,271	235,452
Civilian labor force	154,003	153,834	154,336	154,510	153,716	154,214	154,048	154,731	155,081
Participation rate	66.0	65.4	65.5	66.2	65.5	65.6	65.5	65.8	65.9
Employed	145,927	140,586	140,363	145,974	142,099	141,748	140,887	141,007	140,570
Employment-population ratio	62.5	59.8	59.6	62.5	60.5	60.3	59.9	59.9	59.7
Unemployed	8,076	13,248	13,973	8,536	11,616	12,467	13,161	13,724	14,511
Unemployment rate	5.2	8.6	9.1	5.5	7.6	8.1	8.5	8.9	9.4
Not in labor force	79,402	81,437	81,116	78,895	81,023	80,699	81,038	80,541	80,371
Persons who currently want a job	5,393	5,868	6,612	4,813	5,643	5,645	5,814	5,935	5,861
Men, 16 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	112,912	113,857	113,953	112,912	113,573	113,666	113,758	113,857	113,953
Civilian labor force	82,443	81,878	82,408	82,627	81,863	81,994	81,804	82,358	82,724
Participation rate	73.0	71.9	72.3	73.2	72.1	72.1	71.9	72.3	72.6
Employed	77,983	73,771	74,009	77,932	75,092	74,777	74,053	74,116	74,033
Employment-population ratio	69.1	64.8	64.9	69.0	66.1	65.8	65.1	65.1	65.0
Unemployed	4,459	8,107	8,399	4,695	6,771	7,217	7,751	8,242	8,691
Unemployment rate	5.4	9.9	10.2	5.7	8.3	8.8	9.5	10.0	10.5
Not in labor force	30,470	31,979	31,545	30,285	31,710	31,672	31,954	31,498	31,229
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	104,258	105,196	105,299	104,258	104,902	104,999	105,095	105,196	105,299
Civilian labor force	78,859	78,811	79,156	78,913	78,585	78,687	78,578	79,081	79,395
Participation rate	75.6	74.9	75.2	75.7	74.9	74.9	74.8	75.2	75.4
Employed	75,152	71,468	71,645	74,992	72,613	72,293	71,655	71,678	71,593
Employment-population ratio	72.1	67.9	68.0	71.9	69.2	68.9	68.2	68.1	68.0
Unemployed	3,708	7,343	7,511	3,921	5,972	6,394	6,923	7,403	7,802
Unemployment rate	4.7	9.3	9.5	5.0	7.6	8.1	8.8	9.4	9.8
Not in labor force	25,399	26,386	26,144	25,345	26,318	26,312	26,516	26,115	25,904
Women, 16 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	120,493	121,415	121,499	120,493	121,166	121,247	121,328	121,415	121,499
Civilian labor force	71,560	71,956	71,929	71,883	71,853	72,220	72,244	72,372	72,357
Participation rate	59.4	59.3	59.2	59.7	59.3	59.6	59.5	59.6	59.6
Employed	67,943	66,815	66,354	68,042	67,007	66,970	66,834	66,890	66,537
Employment-population ratio	56.4	55.0	54.6	56.5	55.3	55.2	55.1	55.1	54.8
Unemployed	3,617	5,141	5,574	3,841	4,845	5,250	5,410	5,482	5,820
Unemployment rate	5.1	7.1	7.7	5.3	6.7	7.3	7.5	7.6	8.0
Not in labor force	48,932	49,458	49,570	48,610	49,313	49,027	49,084	49,042	49,142
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	112,083	112,999	113,089	112,083	112,738	112,824	112,908	112,999	113,089
Civilian labor force	68,124	68,957	68,751	68,367	68,584	68,917	68,977	69,148	69,112
Participation rate	60.8	61.0	60.8	61.0	60.8	61.1	61.1	61.2	61.1
Employed	65,115	64,318	63,809	65,114	64,298	64,271	64,148	64,226	63,895
Employment-population ratio	58.1	56.9	56.4	58.1	57.0	57.0	56.8	56.8	56.5
Unemployed	3,008	4,639	4,942	3,252	4,286	4,646	4,828	4,922	5,217
Unemployment rate	4.4	6.7	7.2	4.8	6.2	6.7	7.0	7.1	7.5
Not in labor force	43,959	44,041	44,338	43,716	44,154	43,907	43,931	43,850	43,976
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population	17,064	17,076	17,064	17,064	17,098	17,090	17,083	17,076	17,064
Civilian labor force	7,020	6,066	6,430	7,231	6,547	6,610	6,493	6,501	6,573
Participation rate	41.1	35.5	37.7	42.4	38.3	38.7	38.0	38.1	38.5
Employed	5,660	4,799	4,910	5,868	5,188	5,184	5,083	5,103	5,082
Employment-population ratio	33.2	28.1	28.8	34.4	30.3	30.3	29.8	29.9	29.8
Unemployed	1,360	1,267	1,520	1,363	1,359	1,427	1,410	1,398	1,491
Unemployment rate	19.4	20.9	23.6	18.9	20.8	21.6	21.7	21.5	22.7
Not in labor force	10,044	11,010	10,634	9,834	10,551	10,480	10,590	10,575	10,491

[1] The population figures are not adjusted for seasonal variation; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table A-2. Employment status of the civilian population by race, sex, and age

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, race, sex, and age	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted [1]					
	May 2008	Apr. 2009	May 2009	May 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2009
WHITE									
Civilian noninstitutional population	189,281	190,552	190,667	189,281	190,225	190,331	190,436	190,552	190,667
Civilian labor force	125,415	125,316	125,841	125,759	125,312	125,703	125,599	126,110	126,423
Participation rate	66.3	65.8	66.0	66.4	65.9	66.0	66.0	66.2	66.3
Employed	119,603	115,587	115,444	119,611	116,692	116,481	115,693	115,977	115,561
Employment-population ratio	63.2	60.7	60.5	63.2	61.3	61.2	60.8	60.9	60.6
Unemployed	5,812	9,729	10,398	6,148	8,621	9,222	9,906	10,133	10,862
Unemployment rate	4.6	7.8	8.3	4.9	6.9	7.3	7.9	8.0	8.6
Not in labor force	63,866	65,235	64,826	63,523	64,913	64,628	64,837	64,441	64,244
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	65,416	65,298	65,631	65,392	65,126	65,180	65,032	65,509	65,766
Participation rate	76.1	75.4	75.7	76.1	75.4	75.4	75.2	75.7	75.9
Employed	62,671	59,847	59,932	62,476	60,683	60,361	59,811	59,967	59,820
Employment-population ratio	72.9	69.1	69.2	72.7	70.2	69.8	69.1	69.3	69.0
Unemployed	2,744	5,451	5,699	2,916	4,443	4,819	5,221	5,543	5,946
Unemployment rate	4.2	8.3	8.7	4.5	6.8	7.4	8.0	8.5	9.0
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	54,230	55,033	54,875	54,434	54,786	54,967	55,115	55,227	55,192
Participation rate	60.1	60.5	60.3	60.3	60.4	60.5	60.7	60.8	60.7
Employed	52,159	51,692	51,303	52,182	51,601	51,624	51,519	51,695	51,385
Employment-population ratio	57.8	56.9	56.4	57.8	56.9	56.9	56.7	56.9	56.5
Unemployed	2,071	3,341	3,573	2,252	3,185	3,344	3,596	3,533	3,807
Unemployment rate	3.8	6.1	6.5	4.1	5.8	6.1	6.5	6.4	6.9
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	5,769	4,986	5,335	5,933	5,400	5,556	5,452	5,374	5,465
Participation rate	44.1	38.2	40.9	45.4	41.3	42.5	41.7	41.1	41.9
Employed	4,772	4,049	4,209	4,953	4,408	4,497	4,363	4,316	4,356
Employment-population ratio	36.5	31.0	32.2	37.9	33.7	34.4	33.4	33.0	33.4
Unemployed	996	937	1,126	980	993	1,059	1,089	1,058	1,108
Unemployment rate	17.3	18.8	21.1	16.5	18.4	19.1	20.0	19.7	20.3
BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN									
Civilian noninstitutional population	27,780	28,153	28,184	27,780	28,052	28,085	28,118	28,153	28,184
Civilian labor force	17,676	17,670	17,649	17,737	17,791	17,703	17,542	17,816	17,737
Participation rate	63.6	62.8	62.6	63.8	63.4	63.0	62.4	63.3	62.9
Employed	16,015	15,119	15,047	16,009	15,546	15,336	15,212	15,142	15,095
Employment-population ratio	57.6	53.7	53.4	57.6	55.4	54.6	54.1	53.8	53.6
Unemployed	1,661	2,551	2,603	1,728	2,245	2,368	2,330	2,673	2,642
Unemployment rate	9.4	14.4	14.7	9.7	12.6	13.4	13.3	15.0	14.9
Not in labor force	10,105	10,483	10,534	10,043	10,261	10,382	10,576	10,337	10,446
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	7,880	7,932	7,939	7,917	7,979	7,949	7,917	7,990	8,000
Participation rate	70.6	70.0	70.0	70.9	70.7	70.4	70.0	70.5	70.5
Employed	7,182	6,567	6,621	7,192	6,850	6,762	6,700	6,620	6,656
Employment-population ratio	64.3	58.0	58.3	64.4	60.7	59.9	59.2	58.4	58.7
Unemployed	698	1,365	1,319	725	1,129	1,187	1,218	1,370	1,345
Unemployment rate	8.9	17.2	16.6	9.2	14.1	14.9	15.4	17.2	16.8
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	8,988	9,023	8,987	8,997	9,022	9,006	8,932	9,064	9,000
Participation rate	64.5	63.9	63.5	64.5	64.1	63.9	63.3	64.1	63.6
Employed	8,284	8,076	7,993	8,260	8,194	8,115	8,045	8,025	7,993
Employment-population ratio	59.4	57.2	56.5	59.2	58.2	57.6	57.0	56.8	56.5
Unemployed	704	947	995	737	828	890	887	1,038	1,007
Unemployment rate	7.8	10.5	11.1	8.2	9.2	9.9	9.9	11.5	11.2
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	808	714	723	823	790	749	692	762	736
Participation rate	30.2	26.5	26.9	30.8	29.4	27.8	25.7	28.3	27.4
Employed	548	475	433	557	502	459	467	497	446
Employment-population ratio	20.5	17.7	16.1	20.8	18.6	17.0	17.4	18.5	16.6
Unemployed	259	239	290	266	288	290	225	265	290
Unemployment rate	32.1	33.5	40.1	32.3	36.5	38.8	32.5	34.7	39.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table A-2. Employment status of the civilian population by race, sex, and age — Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, race, sex, and age	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted [1]					
	May 2008	Apr. 2009	May 2009	May 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2009
ASIAN									
Civilian noninstitutional population	10,669	10,788	10,855	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Civilian labor force	7,156	7,128	7,170	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Participation rate	67.1	66.1	66.1	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employed	6,881	6,659	6,690	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employment-population ratio	64.5	61.7	61.6	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployed	275	469	480	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployment rate	3.8	6.6	6.7	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Not in labor force	3,513	3,660	3,685	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)

[1] The population figures are not adjusted for seasonal variation; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.

[2] Data not available.

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups will not sum to totals shown in table A-1 because data are not presented for all races. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table A-3. Employment status of the Hispanic or Latino population by sex and age

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, sex, and age	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted [1]					
	May 2008	Apr. 2009	May 2009	May 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2009
HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY									
Civilian noninstitutional population	31,998	32,671	32,753	31,998	32,417	32,501	32,585	32,671	32,753
Civilian labor force	22,104	22,317	22,299	22,125	21,931	22,100	22,175	22,376	22,438
Participation rate	69.1	68.3	68.1	69.1	67.7	68.0	68.1	68.5	68.5
Employed	20,699	19,895	19,673	20,565	19,800	19,684	19,640	19,854	19,595
Employment-population ratio	64.7	60.9	60.1	64.3	61.1	60.6	60.3	60.8	59.8
Unemployed	1,405	2,422	2,626	1,560	2,132	2,416	2,536	2,521	2,843
Unemployment rate	6.4	10.9	11.8	7.0	9.7	10.9	11.4	11.3	12.7
Not in labor force	9,894	10,354	10,455	9,873	10,486	10,401	10,410	10,295	10,315
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	12,627	12,698	12,739	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Participation rate	84.7	83.6	83.6	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employed	11,893	11,407	11,330	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employment-population ratio	79.8	75.1	74.4	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployed	734	1,291	1,409	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployment rate	5.8	10.2	11.1	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	8,346	8,601	8,510	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Participation rate	59.3	59.9	59.1	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employed	7,874	7,740	7,619	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employment-population ratio	56.0	53.9	52.9	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployed	473	860	891	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployment rate	5.7	10.0	10.5	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	1,131	1,018	1,050	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Participation rate	37.4	32.8	33.7	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employed	933	748	724	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employment-population ratio	30.8	24.1	23.3	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployed	198	270	326	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployment rate	17.5	26.5	31.0	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)

[1] The population figures are not adjusted for seasonal variation; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.

[2] Data not available.

NOTE: Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table A-4. Employment status of the civilian population 25 years and over by educational attainment

(Numbers in thousands)

Educational attainment	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	May 2008	Apr. 2009	May 2009	May 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2009
Less than a high school diploma									
Civilian labor force	12,423	12,180	12,402	12,139	12,024	11,955	11,997	12,027	12,210
Participation rate	46.5	46.2	46.6	45.4	45.9	46.4	45.7	45.7	45.9
Employed	11,512	10,399	10,667	11,117	10,577	10,445	10,399	10,251	10,321
Employment-population ratio	43.1	39.5	40.1	41.6	40.4	40.5	39.6	38.9	38.8
Unemployed	911	1,781	1,736	1,022	1,446	1,510	1,598	1,776	1,889
Unemployment rate	7.3	14.6	14.0	8.4	12.0	12.6	13.3	14.8	15.5
High school graduates, no college [1]									
Civilian labor force	38,198	38,300	38,436	38,219	38,675	38,463	38,434	38,687	38,757
Participation rate	62.6	62.4	62.6	62.6	62.4	62.2	62.3	63.0	63.1
Employed	36,387	34,733	34,827	36,233	35,599	35,270	34,981	35,086	34,881
Employment-population ratio	59.6	56.6	56.7	59.3	57.4	57.1	56.7	57.1	56.8
Unemployed	1,811	3,568	3,609	1,987	3,075	3,193	3,454	3,601	3,875
Unemployment rate	4.7	9.3	9.4	5.2	8.0	8.3	9.0	9.3	10.0
Some college or associate degree									
Civilian labor force	36,565	36,917	36,621	36,719	36,693	37,362	36,921	36,959	36,860
Participation rate	72.0	71.6	71.2	72.3	72.0	72.1	71.8	71.7	71.7
Employed	35,101	34,169	33,914	35,152	34,433	34,738	34,267	34,207	34,013
Employment-population ratio	69.1	66.3	66.0	69.2	67.6	67.1	66.6	66.4	66.2
Unemployed	1,464	2,748	2,707	1,566	2,260	2,624	2,653	2,752	2,847
Unemployment rate	4.0	7.4	7.4	4.3	6.2	7.0	7.2	7.4	7.7
Bachelor's degree and higher [2]									
Civilian labor force	44,612	45,377	45,438	44,539	45,208	45,027	45,401	45,442	45,500
Participation rate	77.8	77.6	77.7	77.6	77.8	77.6	78.1	77.7	77.8
Employed	43,673	43,547	43,368	43,535	43,474	43,177	43,431	43,466	43,332
Employment-population ratio	76.1	74.5	74.1	75.9	74.8	74.4	74.7	74.4	74.1
Unemployed	939	1,831	2,070	1,004	1,735	1,850	1,970	1,977	2,167
Unemployment rate	2.1	4.0	4.6	2.3	3.8	4.1	4.3	4.4	4.8

[1] Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

[2] Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table A-5. Employed persons by class of worker and part-time status

(In thousands)

Category	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	May 2008	Apr. 2009	May 2009	May 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2009
CLASS OF WORKER									
Agriculture and related industries	2,160	2,087	2,205	2,136	2,149	2,148	2,050	2,134	2,173
Wage and salary workers	1,264	1,164	1,278	1,247	1,233	1,244	1,167	1,209	1,256
Self-employed workers	865	894	901	849	903	875	875	887	882
Unpaid family workers	31	29	26	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Nonagricultural industries	143,767	138,498	138,158	143,830	139,952	139,579	138,842	138,828	138,296
Wage and salary workers	134,164	129,381	128,997	134,328	131,110	130,465	129,478	129,724	129,298
Government	21,601	21,548	21,607	21,253	21,237	21,192	20,904	21,211	21,247
Private industries	112,563	107,832	107,389	113,063	109,997	109,311	108,674	108,555	108,054
Private households	774	716	779	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Other industries	111,789	107,116	106,610	112,271	109,217	108,574	107,898	107,813	107,238
Self-employed workers	9,470	9,063	9,099	9,383	8,816	8,962	9,184	9,052	8,990
Unpaid family workers	132	54	63	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
PERSONS AT WORK PART TIME [2]									
All industries:									
Part time for economic reasons	5,096	8,648	8,785	5,290	7,839	8,626	9,049	8,910	9,084
Slack work or business conditions	3,560	6,533	6,647	3,658	5,766	6,443	6,857	6,699	6,794
Could only find part-time work	1,264	1,852	1,898	1,305	1,667	1,764	1,839	1,810	1,922
Part time for noneconomic reasons	19,708	19,644	19,111	19,396	18,864	18,855	18,833	19,065	18,872
Nonagricultural industries:									
Part time for economic reasons	5,046	8,556	8,663	5,218	7,705	8,543	8,942	8,826	8,928
Slack work or business conditions	3,522	6,462	6,552	3,599	5,660	6,390	6,773	6,650	6,681
Could only find part-time work	1,261	1,842	1,886	1,297	1,658	1,760	1,850	1,802	1,909
Part time for noneconomic reasons	19,350	19,282	18,783	18,997	18,567	18,562	18,493	18,661	18,502

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[1] Data not available.

[2] Persons at work excludes employed persons who were absent from their jobs during the entire reference week for reasons such as vacation, illness, or industrial dispute. Part time for noneconomic reasons excludes persons who usually work full time but worked only 1 to 34 hours during the reference week for reasons such as holidays, illness, and bad weather.

NOTE: Detail for the seasonally adjusted data shown in this table will not necessarily add to totals because of the independent seasonal adjustment of the various series. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table A-6. Selected employment indicators

(In thousands)

Characteristic	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	May 2008	Apr. 2009	May 2009	May 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2009
AGE AND SEX									
Total, 16 years and over	145,927	140,586	140,363	145,974	142,099	141,748	140,887	141,007	140,570
16 to 19 years	5,660	4,799	4,910	5,868	5,188	5,184	5,083	5,103	5,082
16 to 17 years	1,919	1,585	1,704	2,048	1,741	1,854	1,755	1,737	1,795
18 to 19 years	3,741	3,214	3,206	3,790	3,441	3,348	3,300	3,353	3,260
20 years and over	140,267	135,786	135,453	140,106	136,911	136,564	135,804	135,904	135,488
20 to 24 years	13,595	12,939	12,678	13,696	13,050	13,157	13,090	13,090	12,842
25 years and over	126,672	122,847	122,775	126,372	123,911	123,302	122,662	122,838	122,650
25 to 54 years	99,993	95,761	95,461	99,746	96,693	96,255	95,720	95,805	95,394
25 to 34 years	31,573	30,092	29,936	31,524	30,449	30,369	30,211	30,140	29,955
35 to 44 years	33,820	31,811	31,764	33,689	32,308	31,999	31,746	31,770	31,681
45 to 54 years	34,601	33,859	33,761	34,533	33,936	33,888	33,763	33,896	33,758
55 years and over	26,679	27,086	27,314	26,626	27,218	27,047	26,942	27,032	27,256
Men, 16 years and over	77,983	73,771	74,009	77,932	75,092	74,777	74,053	74,116	74,033
16 to 19 years	2,832	2,303	2,364	2,940	2,479	2,484	2,398	2,438	2,440
16 to 17 years	927	747	821	988	818	837	803	817	851
18 to 19 years	1,904	1,555	1,543	1,944	1,654	1,640	1,579	1,635	1,580
20 years and over	75,152	71,468	71,645	74,992	72,613	72,293	71,655	71,678	71,593
20 to 24 years	7,215	6,612	6,531	7,232	6,723	6,784	6,656	6,701	6,574
25 years and over	67,937	64,856	65,113	67,746	65,879	65,479	65,031	64,960	65,001
25 to 54 years	53,797	50,700	50,743	53,640	51,480	51,125	50,865	50,802	50,672
25 to 34 years	17,357	16,122	16,090	17,300	16,461	16,449	16,288	16,199	16,082
35 to 44 years	18,210	17,024	17,034	18,150	17,452	17,144	17,027	17,027	17,002
45 to 54 years	18,230	17,555	17,618	18,190	17,567	17,532	17,550	17,576	17,588
55 years and over	14,140	14,156	14,371	14,106	14,399	14,354	14,166	14,157	14,329
Women, 16 years and over	67,943	66,815	66,354	68,042	67,007	66,970	66,834	66,890	66,537
16 to 19 years	2,828	2,497	2,546	2,928	2,709	2,699	2,685	2,664	2,642
16 to 17 years	992	838	883	1,060	923	1,017	952	920	944
18 to 19 years	1,836	1,659	1,663	1,846	1,787	1,708	1,721	1,718	1,681
20 years and over	65,115	64,318	63,809	65,114	64,298	64,271	64,148	64,226	63,895
20 to 24 years	6,380	6,327	6,146	6,464	6,327	6,372	6,434	6,389	6,268
25 years and over	58,736	57,991	57,662	58,627	58,032	57,823	57,631	57,878	57,649
25 to 54 years	46,196	45,061	44,719	46,106	45,213	45,131	44,855	45,003	44,722
25 to 34 years	14,216	13,970	13,846	14,224	13,988	13,920	13,922	13,941	13,873
35 to 44 years	15,610	14,787	14,730	15,539	14,856	14,855	14,719	14,742	14,679
45 to 54 years	16,370	16,304	16,143	16,343	16,369	16,356	16,214	16,320	16,170
55 years and over	12,540	12,930	12,943	12,521	12,819	12,693	12,776	12,875	12,927
MARITAL STATUS									
Married men, spouse present	46,024	44,470	44,337	45,871	44,712	44,502	44,470	44,469	44,255
Married women, spouse present	36,298	35,668	35,589	36,122	35,375	35,563	35,481	35,444	35,391
Women who maintain families	9,189	8,951	8,928	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
FULL- OR PART-TIME STATUS									
Full-time workers [2]	120,809	112,746	113,083	120,909	115,794	114,853	113,665	113,725	113,318
Part-time workers [3]	25,117	27,840	27,280	25,028	26,200	26,590	26,963	27,066	27,195
MULTIPLE JOBHOLDERS									
Total multiple jobholders	7,653	7,781	7,265	7,685	7,441	7,626	7,656	7,748	7,292
Percent of total employed	5.2	5.5	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.2

[1] Data not available.

[2] Employed full-time workers are persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week.

[3] Employed part-time workers are persons who usually work less than 35 hours per week.

NOTE: Detail for the seasonally adjusted data shown in this table will not necessarily add to totals because of the independent seasonal adjustment of the various series. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table A-7. Selected unemployment indicators, seasonally adjusted

Characteristic	Number of unemployed persons (in thousands)			Unemployment rates [1]					
	May 2008	Apr. 2009	May 2009	May 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2009
AGE AND SEX									
Total, 16 years and over	8,536	13,724	14,511	5.5	7.6	8.1	8.5	8.9	9.4
16 to 19 years	1,363	1,398	1,491	18.9	20.8	21.6	21.7	21.5	22.7
16 to 17 years	560	520	548	21.5	21.4	22.9	23.7	23.0	23.4
18 to 19 years	810	908	966	17.6	20.2	21.0	20.9	21.3	22.9
20 years and over	7,173	12,326	13,019	4.9	7.0	7.5	8.0	8.3	8.8
20 to 24 years	1,581	2,258	2,265	10.3	12.1	12.9	14.0	14.7	15.0
25 years and over	5,554	9,999	10,740	4.2	6.4	6.9	7.2	7.5	8.1
25 to 54 years	4,650	8,139	8,777	4.5	6.7	7.2	7.6	7.8	8.4
25 to 34 years	1,791	3,229	3,514	5.4	7.9	8.7	9.0	9.7	10.5
35 to 44 years	1,509	2,580	2,789	4.3	6.5	6.8	7.2	7.5	8.1
45 to 54 years	1,350	2,330	2,474	3.8	5.9	6.2	6.6	6.4	6.8
55 years and over	915	1,849	1,961	3.3	5.2	5.6	6.2	6.4	6.7
Men, 16 years and over	4,695	8,242	8,691	5.7	8.3	8.8	9.5	10.0	10.5
16 to 19 years	774	839	889	20.8	24.4	24.9	25.7	25.6	26.7
16 to 17 years	308	291	301	23.7	26.5	26.5	28.2	26.3	26.1
18 to 19 years	480	555	609	19.8	22.8	24.7	24.6	25.3	27.8
20 years and over	3,921	7,403	7,802	5.0	7.6	8.1	8.8	9.4	9.8
20 to 24 years	902	1,424	1,395	11.1	14.1	14.6	16.7	17.5	17.5
25 years and over	3,016	5,911	6,395	4.3	6.9	7.5	7.9	8.3	9.0
25 to 54 years	2,509	4,889	5,320	4.5	7.3	7.9	8.3	8.8	9.5
25 to 34 years	1,013	2,026	2,162	5.5	8.8	9.5	10.1	11.1	11.9
35 to 44 years	791	1,516	1,691	4.2	6.6	7.2	7.7	8.2	9.0
45 to 54 years	705	1,347	1,468	3.7	6.7	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.7
55 years and over	507	1,022	1,074	3.5	5.3	6.0	6.3	6.7	7.0
Women, 16 years and over	3,841	5,482	5,820	5.3	6.7	7.3	7.5	7.6	8.0
16 to 19 years	589	560	602	16.7	17.1	18.3	17.8	17.4	18.6
16 to 17 years	252	229	247	19.2	16.2	19.8	19.4	19.9	20.7
18 to 19 years	330	353	358	15.2	17.5	17.0	17.2	17.1	17.5
20 years and over	3,252	4,922	5,217	4.8	6.2	6.7	7.0	7.1	7.5
20 to 24 years	679	834	870	9.5	10.0	10.9	11.0	11.5	12.2
25 years and over	2,538	4,088	4,345	4.1	5.8	6.2	6.5	6.6	7.0
25 to 54 years	2,141	3,250	3,457	4.4	6.0	6.4	6.7	6.7	7.2
25 to 34 years	778	1,203	1,352	5.2	6.8	7.7	7.6	7.9	8.9
35 to 44 years	717	1,064	1,098	4.4	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.7	7.0
45 to 54 years	645	983	1,007	3.8	5.0	5.3	6.1	5.7	5.9
55 years and over [2]	357	745	791	2.8	5.4	5.3	5.8	5.4	5.8
MARITAL STATUS									
Married men, spouse present	1,395	2,986	3,219	3.0	5.0	5.5	5.8	6.3	6.8
Married women, spouse present	1,194	2,077	2,136	3.2	4.7	5.1	5.4	5.5	5.7
Women who maintain families [2]	683	999	1,102	6.9	10.3	10.3	10.8	10.0	11.0
FULL- OR PART-TIME STATUS									
Full-time workers [3]	7,049	12,037	12,802	5.5	8.0	8.6	9.2	9.6	10.2
Part-time workers [4]	1,458	1,744	1,737	5.5	5.9	5.8	5.9	6.1	6.0

[1] Unemployment as a percent of the civilian labor force.

[2] Not seasonally adjusted.

[3] Full-time workers are unemployed persons who have expressed a desire to work full time (35 hours or more per week) or are on layoff from full-time jobs.

[4] Part-time workers are unemployed persons who have expressed a desire to work part time (less than 35 hours per week) or are on layoff from part-time jobs.

NOTE: Detail for the seasonally adjusted data shown in this table will not necessarily add to totals because of the independent seasonal adjustment of the various series. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table A-8. Unemployed persons by reason for unemployment

(Numbers in thousands)

Reason	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	May 2008	Apr. 2009	May 2009	May 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2009
NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED									
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs	3,949	8,687	8,930	4,319	6,980	7,696	8,243	8,814	9,546
On temporary layoff	856	1,586	1,459	1,121	1,441	1,488	1,557	1,625	1,832
Not on temporary layoff	3,094	7,101	7,471	3,197	5,539	6,208	6,686	7,189	7,714
Permanent job losers	2,220	5,853	6,140	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])
Persons who completed temporary jobs	874	1,248	1,331	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])
Job leavers	819	842	851	881	917	820	887	890	910
Reentrants	2,515	2,932	3,236	2,522	2,751	2,834	2,974	3,087	3,180
New entrants	793	788	956	832	780	1,005	868	900	956
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION									
Total unemployed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs	48.9	65.6	63.9	50.5	61.1	62.3	63.5	64.4	65.4
On temporary layoff	10.6	12.0	10.4	13.1	12.6	12.0	12.0	11.9	12.6
Not on temporary layoff	38.3	53.6	53.5	37.4	48.5	50.2	51.5	52.5	52.9
Job leavers	10.1	6.4	6.1	10.3	8.0	6.6	6.8	6.5	6.2
Reentrants	31.1	22.1	23.2	29.5	24.1	22.9	22.9	22.5	21.8
New entrants	9.8	5.9	6.8	9.7	6.8	8.1	6.7	6.6	6.6
UNEMPLOYED AS A PERCENT OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE									
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs	2.6	5.6	5.8	2.8	4.5	5.0	5.4	5.7	6.2
Job leavers	.5	.5	.6	.6	.6	.5	.6	.6	.6
Reentrants	1.6	1.9	2.1	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.1
New entrants	.5	.5	.6	.5	.5	.7	.6	.6	.6

[1] Data not available.

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table A-9. Unemployed persons by duration of unemployment

(Numbers in thousands)

Duration	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	May 2008	Apr. 2009	May 2009	May 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2009
NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED									
Less than 5 weeks	3,222	2,855	3,192	3,257	3,658	3,404	3,371	3,346	3,275
5 to 14 weeks	2,035	3,526	3,633	2,478	3,519	3,969	4,041	3,982	4,321
15 weeks and over	2,819	6,867	7,148	2,808	4,634	5,264	5,715	6,211	7,002
15 to 26 weeks	1,263	2,966	3,179	1,238	1,987	2,347	2,534	2,531	3,054
27 weeks and over	1,557	3,901	3,969	1,570	2,647	2,917	3,182	3,680	3,948
Average (mean) duration, in weeks	17.0	23.4	23.1	16.8	19.8	19.8	20.1	21.4	22.5
Median duration, in weeks	8.2	15.4	15.1	8.3	10.3	11.0	11.2	12.5	14.9
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION									
Total unemployed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 5 weeks	39.9	21.5	22.8	38.1	31.0	26.9	25.7	24.7	22.4
5 to 14 weeks	25.2	26.6	26.0	29.0	29.8	31.4	30.8	29.4	29.6
15 weeks and over	34.9	51.8	51.2	32.9	39.2	41.7	43.5	45.9	48.0
15 to 26 weeks	15.6	22.4	22.8	14.5	16.8	18.6	19.3	18.7	20.9
27 weeks and over	19.3	29.4	28.4	18.4	22.4	23.1	24.2	27.2	27.0

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table A-10. Employed and unemployed persons by occupation, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Occupation	Employed		Unemployed		Unemployment rates	
	May 2008	May 2009	May 2008	May 2009	May 2008	May 2009
Total, 16 years and over [1]	145,927	140,363	8,076	13,973	5.2	9.1
Management, professional, and related occupations	52,544	52,256	1,407	2,373	2.6	4.3
Management, business, and financial operations occupations	21,822	21,368	610	1,032	2.7	4.6
Professional and related occupations	30,722	30,888	796	1,341	2.5	4.2
Service occupations	24,679	24,884	1,648	2,578	6.3	9.4
Sales and office occupations	35,589	33,854	1,779	3,115	4.8	8.4
Sales and related occupations	16,167	15,627	861	1,528	5.1	8.9
Office and administrative support occupations	19,422	18,227	918	1,587	4.5	8.0
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	14,876	13,445	1,207	2,398	7.5	15.1
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	1,008	1,004	80	111	7.3	10.0
Construction and extraction occupations	8,684	7,339	907	1,796	9.5	19.7
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	5,184	5,103	220	491	4.1	8.8
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	18,238	15,923	1,228	2,517	6.3	13.7
Production occupations	9,136	7,557	653	1,396	6.7	15.6
Transportation and material moving occupations	9,103	8,366	575	1,122	5.9	11.8

[1] Persons with no previous work experience and persons whose last job was in the Armed Forces are included in the unemployed total.

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table A-11. Unemployed persons by industry and class of worker, not seasonally adjusted

Industry and class of worker	Number of unemployed persons (In thousands)		Unemployment rates	
	May 2008	May 2009	May 2008	May 2009
Total, 16 years and over [1]	8,076	13,973	5.2	9.1
Nonagricultural private wage and salary workers	6,362	11,649	5.3	9.8
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	28	98	3.4	13.3
Construction	809	1,768	8.6	19.2
Manufacturing	879	2,010	5.3	12.6
Durable goods	565	1,320	5.4	13.2
Nondurable goods	314	690	5.3	11.5
Wholesale and retail trade	1,049	1,835	5.2	9.0
Transportation and utilities	269	506	4.3	8.5
Information	170	303	5.0	9.5
Financial activities	361	536	3.7	5.7
Professional and business services	829	1,514	5.9	10.9
Education and health services	619	1,005	3.2	4.9
Leisure and hospitality	1,074	1,599	8.4	11.9
Other services	275	476	4.4	7.5
Agriculture and related private wage and salary workers	94	136	7.4	10.0
Government workers	461	702	2.1	3.1
Self employed and unpaid family workers	366	530	3.4	5.0

[1] Persons with no previous work experience are included in the unemployed total.

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. Effective with January 2009 data, industries reflect the introduction of the 2007 Census industry classification system into the Current Population Survey. This industry classification system is derived from the 2007 North American Industry Classification System. No historical data have been revised.

Table A-12. Alternative measures of labor underutilization

(Percent)

Measure	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	May 2008	Apr. 2009	May 2009	May 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2009
U-1 Persons unemployed 15 weeks or longer, as a percent of the civilian labor force	1.8	4.5	4.6	1.8	3.0	3.4	3.7	4.0	4.5
U-2 Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs, as a percent of the civilian labor force	2.6	5.6	5.8	2.8	4.5	5.0	5.4	5.7	6.2
U-3 Total unemployed, as a percent of the civilian labor force (official unemployment rate)	5.2	8.6	9.1	5.5	7.6	8.1	8.5	8.9	9.4
U-4 Total unemployed plus discouraged workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus discouraged workers	5.5	9.0	9.5	5.8	8.0	8.5	8.9	9.3	9.8
U-5 Total unemployed, plus discouraged workers, plus all other marginally attached workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all marginally attached workers	6.1	9.8	10.3	6.4	8.8	9.3	9.8	10.1	10.6
U-6 Total unemployed, plus all marginally attached workers, plus total employed part time for economic reasons, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all marginally attached workers	9.4	15.4	15.9	9.8	13.9	14.8	15.6	15.8	16.4

NOTE: Marginally attached workers are persons who currently are neither working nor looking for work but indicate that they want and are available for a job and have looked for work sometime in the recent past. Discouraged workers, a subset of the marginally attached, have given a job-market related reason for not looking currently for a job. Persons employed part time for economic reasons are those who want and are available for full-time work but have had to settle for a part-time schedule. For more information, see "BLS introduces new range of alternative unemployment measures," in the October 1995 issue of the Monthly Labor Review. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table A-13. Persons not in the labor force and multiple jobholders by sex, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Category	Total		Men		Women	
	May 2008	May 2009	May 2008	May 2009	May 2008	May 2009
NOT IN THE LABOR FORCE						
Total not in the labor force	79,402	81,116	30,470	31,545	48,932	49,570
Persons who currently want a job	5,393	6,612	2,427	3,110	2,966	3,501
Marginally attached to the labor force [1]	1,416	2,210	754	1,165	662	1,046
Reason not currently looking:						
Discouragement over job prospects [2]	400	792	260	499	140	294
Reasons other than discouragement [3]	1,016	1,418	494	666	522	752
MULTIPLE JOBHOLDERS						
Total multiple jobholders [4]	7,653	7,265	3,842	3,540	3,812	3,725
Percent of total employed	5.2	5.2	4.9	4.8	5.6	5.6
Primary job full time, secondary job part time	4,205	3,908	2,300	2,034	1,904	1,873
Primary and secondary jobs both part time	1,827	1,832	577	634	1,250	1,199
Primary and secondary jobs both full time	286	231	195	155	91	76
Hours vary on primary or secondary job	1,296	1,254	739	691	557	563

[1] Data refer to persons who have searched for work during the prior 12 months and were available to take a job during the reference week.

[2] Includes thinks no work available, could not find work, lacks schooling or training, employer thinks too young or old, and other types of discrimination.

[3] Includes those who did not actively look for work in the prior 4 weeks for such reasons as school or family responsibilities, ill health, and transportation problems, as well as a small number for which reason for nonparticipation was not determined.

[4] Includes persons who work part time on their primary job and full time on their secondary job(s), not shown separately.

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table B-1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail

(In thousands)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	May 2008	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009^{p}	May 2009^{p}	May 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009^{p}	May 2009^{p}	Change from: Apr. 2009–May 2009^{p}
Total nonfarm	138,190	132,077	132,348	132,667	137,517	134,333	133,652	133,000	132,496	132,151	-345
Total private	115,314	109,148	109,320	109,663	115,029	111,793	111,105	110,457	109,861	109,523	-338
Goods-producing	21,658	19,056	18,986	18,999	21,612	20,127	19,832	19,520	19,246	19,021	-225
Mining and logging	764	739	728	724	763	781	771	754	742	732	-10
Logging	55.5	49.2	47.6	49.5	57.3	55.2	54.5	51.9	51.4	51.6	.2
Mining	708.6	689.3	680.8	674.4	705.5	725.3	716.4	701.9	690.7	680.2	-10.5
Oil and gas extraction	158.5	165.2	164.6	165.5	158.8	167.7	167.8	166.9	167.1	167.1	.0
Mining, except oil and gas[1]	230.8	213.5	217.5	221.0	226.3	227.9	225.7	222.8	221.1	219.0	-2.1
Coal mining	78.8	83.2	82.0	80.5	79.2	84.9	84.1	83.3	82.5	81.2	-1.3
Support activities for mining	319.3	310.6	298.7	287.9	320.4	329.7	322.9	312.2	302.5	294.1	-8.4
Construction	7,352	6,121	6,202	6,331	7,293	6,706	6,593	6,470	6,362	6,303	-59
Construction of buildings	1,678.1	1,420.5	1,420.9	1,434.1	1,676.9	1,536.9	1,509.5	1,481.5	1,458.4	1,445.7	-12.7
Residential building	849.8	689.3	691.6	697.2	847.4	755.2	741.2	724.2	712.3	701.0	-11.3
Nonresidential building	828.3	731.2	729.3	736.9	829.5	781.7	768.3	757.3	746.1	744.7	-1.4
Heavy and civil engineering construction	1,005.3	826.6	864.2	903.4	982.1	926.6	919.0	907.2	889.0	880.3	-8.7
Specialty trade contractors	4,668.7	3,873.9	3,917.3	3,993.0	4,633.6	4,242.2	4,164.4	4,081.4	4,015.0	3,976.5	-38.5
Residential specialty trade contractors	2,070.4	1,677.3	1,697.7	1,740.1	2,051.4	1,838.3	1,801.2	1,770.3	1,735.9	1,727.7	-8.2
Nonresidential specialty trade contractors	2,598.3	2,196.6	2,219.6	2,252.9	2,582.2	2,403.9	2,363.2	2,311.1	2,279.1	2,248.8	-30.3
Manufacturing	13,542	12,196	12,056	11,944	13,556	12,640	12,468	12,296	12,142	11,986	-156
Production workers	9,767	8,570	8,472	8,370	9,770	8,946	8,804	8,654	8,531	8,398	-133
Durable goods	8,568	7,575	7,455	7,338	8,567	7,881	7,753	7,620	7,485	7,354	-131
Production workers	6,085	5,202	5,115	5,014	6,077	5,458	5,352	5,239	5,128	5,019	-109
Wood products	468.5	377.0	377.5	377.0	468.3	403.9	390.4	388.4	383.7	377.1	-6.6
Nonmetallic mineral products	476.4	403.8	414.2	411.3	473.0	434.3	425.8	417.0	415.2	409.0	-6.2
Primary metals	448.3	385.6	373.3	364.2	447.9	409.3	395.2	386.4	375.4	365.6	-9.8
Fabricated metal products	1,539.6	1,362.6	1,334.0	1,316.5	1,544.8	1,425.3	1,399.0	1,370.3	1,343.1	1,324.4	-18.7
Machinery	1,192.6	1,068.7	1,040.9	1,013.3	1,192.2	1,126.0	1,100.8	1,070.5	1,045.3	1,018.9	-26.4
Computer and electronic products[1]	1,250.1	1,184.5	1,168.1	1,154.5	1,252.8	1,212.9	1,196.9	1,187.1	1,173.1	1,158.7	-14.4
Computer and peripheral equipment	183.6	173.4	167.8	165.2	183.6	180.3	175.5	173.5	168.5	165.3	-3.2
Communications equipment	129.0	128.1	128.1	127.4	129.1	129.6	129.0	128.5	128.3	127.7	-.6
Semiconductors and electronic components	433.5	396.3	388.5	382.8	434.4	410.5	403.3	397.6	390.8	384.9	-5.9
Electronic instruments	442.2	430.5	429.1	425.4	443.1	433.8	431.9	430.9	430.3	426.1	-4.2
Electrical equipment and appliances	427.5	387.8	378.7	373.3	428.5	406.1	399.1	389.7	380.5	374.5	-6.0
Transportation equipment[1]	1,644.1	1,402.9	1,370.5	1,335.8	1,636.6	1,423.5	1,423.7	1,400.4	1,366.5	1,330.6	-35.9
Motor vehicles and parts[2]	905.5	708.3	683.2	651.7	897.2	711.2	718.7	702.8	675.9	646.1	-29.8
Furniture and related products	491.3	405.0	399.7	395.6	491.6	428.6	417.4	408.8	401.3	394.6	-6.7
Miscellaneous manufacturing	629.4	596.9	598.1	596.3	631.4	611.0	604.5	601.1	601.1	600.1	-1.0
Nondurable goods	4,974	4,621	4,601	4,606	4,989	4,759	4,715	4,676	4,657	4,632	-25
Production workers	3,682	3,368	3,357	3,356	3,693	3,488	3,452	3,415	3,403	3,379	-24
Food manufacturing	1,463.7	1,435.3	1,440.1	1,453.3	1,483.1	1,470.7	1,467.2	1,464.4	1,476.1	1,474.6	-1.5
Beverages and tobacco products	200.9	185.7	186.3	188.8	201.4	194.2	191.3	191.6	190.9	190.1	-.8
Textile mills	155.1	127.4	126.7	127.2	154.3	133.6	130.0	128.2	127.8	127.0	-.8
Textile product mills	150.2	128.7	126.3	126.4	149.1	137.4	134.2	129.3	127.3	127.2	-.1
Apparel	201.7	172.2	168.4	169.8	200.8	178.9	176.3	173.8	169.9	170.1	.2
Leather and allied products	33.6	31.5	32.0	31.7	33.6	32.4	31.9	31.7	31.8	31.6	-.2
Paper and paper products	449.5	415.2	412.8	408.7	449.8	427.3	422.5	418.3	414.5	409.4	-5.1
Printing and related support activities	601.3	538.8	530.2	529.6	601.2	558.1	549.2	541.5	534.7	531.1	-3.6
Petroleum and coal products	119.2	111.5	113.5	114.5	117.1	114.2	114.6	114.5	114.4	113.8	-.6
Chemicals	854.3	821.0	815.8	815.5	854.2	832.7	828.2	823.4	819.2	816.6	-2.6
Plastics and rubber products	744.3	653.8	649.0	640.4	744.3	679.7	669.3	659.0	650.2	640.4	-9.8

See footnotes at the end of table.

Table B-1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail—Continued

(In thousands)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	May 2008	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009p	May 2009p	May 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009p	May 2009p	Change from: Apr. 2009-May 2009p
Service-providing	116,532	113,021	113,362	113,668	115,905	114,206	113,820	113,480	113,250	113,130	-120
Private service-providing	93,656	90,092	90,334	90,664	93,417	91,666	91,273	90,937	90,615	90,502	-113
Trade, transportation, and utilities	26,447	25,173	25,116	25,232	26,503	25,735	25,605	25,479	25,364	25,310	-54
Wholesale trade	5,998.0	5,706.4	5,689.3	5,690.1	5,989.3	5,819.3	5,773.7	5,741.3	5,707.2	5,685.3	-21.9
Durable goods	3,078.7	2,884.6	2,862.5	2,858.7	3,078.2	2,959.6	2,926.2	2,899.4	2,874.7	2,860.9	-13.8
Nondurable goods	2,071.0	1,985.1	1,990.7	2,000.8	2,063.7	2,013.9	2,006.6	2,002.5	1,997.3	1,994.4	-2.9
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	848.3	836.7	836.1	830.6	847.4	845.8	840.9	839.4	835.2	830.0	-5.2
Retail trade	15,335.2	14,640.4	14,632.8	14,733.2	15,419.9	14,991.5	14,934.3	14,872.4	14,835.9	14,818.4	-17.5
Motor vehicle and parts dealers[1]	1,891.0	1,683.6	1,685.7	1,689.7	1,877.4	1,730.1	1,716.8	1,701.8	1,690.8	1,681.9	-8.9
Automobile dealers	1,219.0	1,058.6	1,054.8	1,054.0	1,214.6	1,088.6	1,078.7	1,067.7	1,059.1	1,052.2	-6.9
Furniture and home furnishings stores	539.4	489.5	485.5	482.1	547.6	508.3	499.7	497.7	492.3	487.3	-5.0
Electronics and appliance stores	546.9	513.7	511.6	503.3	555.0	535.5	533.7	518.6	516.9	513.6	-3.3
Building material and garden supply stores	1,321.4	1,168.7	1,208.1	1,240.1	1,256.0	1,214.9	1,207.1	1,193.5	1,189.1	1,185.7	-3.4
Food and beverage stores	2,861.0	2,802.3	2,794.5	2,820.3	2,864.0	2,835.3	2,826.0	2,827.6	2,825.6	2,824.6	-1.0
Health and personal care stores	1,001.4	980.2	978.8	980.2	1,004.8	985.7	986.9	985.0	983.5	982.7	-.8
Gasoline stations	840.5	820.6	824.7	832.1	838.1	833.0	832.1	830.4	831.2	829.9	-1.3
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	1,444.4	1,379.1	1,375.7	1,380.4	1,490.9	1,445.0	1,443.8	1,433.4	1,432.1	1,428.8	-3.3
Sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores	630.6	591.3	586.2	590.4	649.2	620.8	613.6	610.0	608.9	608.2	-.7
General merchandise stores[1]	2,979.0	3,013.9	2,985.1	3,000.6	3,043.2	3,040.7	3,040.7	3,045.5	3,042.4	3,049.3	6.9
Department stores	1,512.0	1,498.7	1,478.1	1,487.9	1,564.0	1,529.1	1,532.6	1,530.9	1,523.9	1,528.4	4.5
Miscellaneous store retailers	850.4	788.0	791.0	809.3	851.8	819.5	815.1	810.4	805.9	808.9	3.0
Nonstore retailers	429.2	409.5	405.9	404.7	441.9	422.7	418.8	418.5	417.2	417.5	.3
Transportation and warehousing	4,556.1	4,257.5	4,226.7	4,239.4	4,536.3	4,354.4	4,327.0	4,295.5	4,251.1	4,236.6	-14.5
Air transportation	499.4	472.4	468.8	470.5	498.3	476.8	474.8	474.0	469.3	470.1	.8
Rail transportation	231.7	219.4	216.9	216.9	230.3	227.1	224.1	220.7	217.3	216.8	-.5
Water transportation	66.2	56.9	57.1	56.9	65.8	59.7	60.9	59.6	58.1	57.4	-.7
Truck transportation	1,405.8	1,275.1	1,265.4	1,269.9	1,405.1	1,323.3	1,313.9	1,300.3	1,281.8	1,273.7	-8.1
Transit and ground passenger transportation	439.2	419.5	414.8	426.3	418.8	408.1	406.4	406.2	399.3	405.7	6.4
Pipeline transportation	41.6	42.6	42.9	42.4	41.7	43.1	43.1	43.0	43.1	42.7	-.4
Scenic and sightseeing transportation	29.8	20.7	24.4	30.5	28.1	26.9	27.0	27.0	27.9	29.1	1.2
Support activities for transportation	593.0	549.7	547.8	540.3	591.5	569.3	561.0	554.6	551.6	545.4	-6.2
Couriers and messengers	575.1	554.7	550.0	547.8	578.9	563.2	563.7	558.5	556.0	551.2	-4.8
Warehousing and storage	674.3	646.5	638.6	637.9	677.8	656.9	652.1	651.6	646.7	644.5	-2.2
Utilities	557.6	568.7	567.1	569.2	557.0	569.3	570.0	570.1	569.7	569.5	-.2
Information	3,018	2,902	2,884	2,865	3,013	2,924	2,918	2,905	2,885	2,861	-24
Publishing industries, except Internet	886.7	826.1	817.5	809.4	890.4	846.3	836.3	827.8	820.9	812.4	-8.5
Motion picture and sound recording industries	389.4	393.2	393.1	386.3	383.3	376.7	389.8	393.7	389.3	379.9	-9.4
Broadcasting, except Internet	317.4	297.7	294.4	293.6	317.7	306.5	302.5	299.0	296.7	295.3	-1.4
Telecommunications	1,025.1	996.5	987.4	988.3	1,025.3	1,001.6	999.5	996.7	990.0	988.5	-1.5
Data processing, hosting and related services	267.1	254.9	258.1	253.7	263.3	257.0	254.6	253.9	255.1	251.6	-3.5
Other information services	132.4	133.9	133.2	133.8	132.5	135.7	134.8	134.1	133.4	133.6	.2
Financial activities	8,183	7,818	7,777	7,763	8,179	7,954	7,898	7,857	7,812	7,782	-30
Finance and insurance	6,038.1	5,827.1	5,787.7	5,767.0	6,039.7	5,890.4	5,853.9	5,829.5	5,798.0	5,778.7	-19.3
Monetary authorities - central bank	22.6	20.8	20.5	20.5	22.5	21.0	20.9	20.8	20.6	20.5	-.1
Credit intermediation and related activities[1]	2,750.1	2,634.5	2,614.3	2,607.8	2,746.7	2,665.3	2,648.8	2,635.4	2,619.9	2,613.9	-6.0
Depository credit intermediation[1]	1,824.6	1,779.8	1,774.7	1,771.5	1,824.8	1,798.1	1,790.9	1,783.4	1,778.7	1,775.5	-3.2
Commercial banking	1,363.4	1,331.6	1,327.6	1,325.2	1,363.0	1,346.6	1,340.5	1,334.2	1,330.2	1,329.6	-.6
Securities, commodity contracts, investments	863.1	806.9	793.5	782.7	865.8	826.5	814.9	805.8	795.1	785.6	-9.5
Insurance carriers and related activities	2,312.8	2,276.8	2,271.7	2,269.0	2,314.7	2,287.4	2,281.1	2,279.4	2,274.5	2,271.0	-3.5
Funds, trusts, and other financial vehicles	89.5	88.1	87.7	87.0	90.0	90.2	88.2	88.1	87.9	87.7	-.2
Real estate and rental and leasing	2,144.6	1,990.4	1,988.9	1,995.9	2,138.9	2,063.2	2,043.8	2,027.0	2,014.0	2,003.2	-10.8
Real estate	1,487.1	1,399.1	1,398.1	1,398.1	1,486.2	1,444.9	1,432.4	1,421.9	1,413.4	1,404.8	-8.6
Rental and leasing services	630.0	563.2	562.6	569.6	624.8	589.9	583.2	576.6	572.2	569.9	-2.3
Lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets	27.5	28.1	28.2	28.2	27.9	28.4	28.2	28.5	28.4	28.5	.1

See footnotes at the end of table.

Table B-1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail—Continued

(In thousands)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	May 2008	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009[p]	May 2009[p]	May 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009[p]	May 2009[p]	Change from: Apr. 2009-May 2009[p]
Professional and business services	17,878	16,691	16,767	16,704	17,887	17,205	17,029	16,910	16,799	16,748	-51
Professional and technical services[1]	7,759.3	7,748.9	7,739.9	7,575.9	7,821.5	7,765.5	7,729.2	7,697.9	7,683.1	7,664.3	-18.8
Legal services	1,163.2	1,138.6	1,135.1	1,133.0	1,165.2	1,154.1	1,148.7	1,144.9	1,141.0	1,139.7	-1.3
Accounting and bookkeeping services	892.7	1,037.8	1,028.0	881.0	944.9	927.5	924.4	929.5	933.7	939.8	6.1
Architectural and engineering services	1,448.5	1,356.4	1,351.3	1,344.4	1,449.3	1,411.1	1,394.2	1,377.9	1,363.5	1,349.1	-14.4
Computer systems design and related services	1,443.4	1,451.5	1,457.4	1,454.9	1,445.8	1,462.4	1,463.7	1,459.2	1,461.7	1,458.9	-2.8
Management and technical consulting services	1,000.9	1,006.0	1,009.1	1,011.2	1,002.3	1,025.7	1,021.6	1,016.0	1,017.0	1,017.7	.7
Management of companies and enterprises	1,897.3	1,850.1	1,833.4	1,817.4	1,902.1	1,871.7	1,862.1	1,852.6	1,837.8	1,821.5	-16.3
Administrative and waste services	8,221.4	7,092.2	7,193.6	7,311.1	8,163.3	7,567.5	7,437.8	7,359.4	7,278.2	7,262.1	-16.1
Administrative and support services[1]	7,862.0	6,739.0	6,835.3	6,947.2	7,804.4	7,203.1	7,076.5	6,999.2	6,916.8	6,898.4	-18.4
Employment services[1]	3,210.5	2,448.4	2,440.0	2,479.8	3,242.7	2,720.5	2,638.7	2,567.0	2,504.5	2,493.3	-11.2
Temporary help services	2,403.3	1,735.6	1,725.7	1,764.4	2,426.7	1,965.7	1,892.7	1,835.4	1,780.7	1,774.2	-6.5
Business support services	824.1	804.5	792.3	783.3	822.6	817.6	805.0	799.1	793.4	788.7	-4.7
Services to buildings and dwellings	1,936.4	1,657.2	1,776.5	1,852.3	1,853.5	1,812.5	1,796.8	1,791.5	1,783.7	1,784.0	.3
Waste management and remediation services	359.4	353.2	358.3	363.9	358.9	364.4	361.3	360.2	361.4	363.7	2.3
Education and health services	18,847	19,286	19,326	19,283	18,798	19,119	19,138	19,158	19,171	19,215	44
Educational services	3,051.9	3,222.7	3,221.2	3,123.2	3,025.4	3,088.4	3,083.1	3,077.9	3,072.6	3,080.5	7.9
Health care and social assistance	15,794.8	16,062.8	16,104.6	16,160.0	15,772.3	16,030.3	16,054.7	16,080.1	16,098.2	16,134.6	36.4
Health care[3]	13,257.1	13,503.0	13,533.3	13,565.7	13,268.3	13,490.2	13,515.0	13,535.9	13,554.6	13,578.1	23.5
Ambulatory health care services[1]	5,633.2	5,763.4	5,793.8	5,814.4	5,634.9	5,753.3	5,770.1	5,779.8	5,797.0	5,814.6	17.6
Offices of physicians	2,252.0	2,302.4	2,306.5	2,310.9	2,256.8	2,300.4	2,304.4	2,308.0	2,310.7	2,314.2	3.5
Outpatient care centers	531.7	537.0	539.0	541.1	531.5	538.0	538.5	537.7	539.2	541.4	2.2
Home health care services	950.9	992.3	1,006.7	1,016.2	951.8	981.4	991.0	996.7	1,005.9	1,013.2	7.3
Hospitals	4,618.0	4,704.9	4,700.9	4,703.5	4,627.2	4,707.5	4,711.3	4,715.1	4,714.9	4,715.2	.3
Nursing and residential care facilities[1]	3,005.9	3,034.7	3,038.6	3,047.8	3,006.2	3,029.4	3,033.6	3,041.0	3,042.7	3,048.3	5.6
Nursing care facilities	1,615.6	1,617.6	1,621.1	1,626.8	1,615.1	1,616.6	1,617.9	1,621.8	1,624.4	1,627.3	2.9
Social assistance[1]	2,537.7	2,559.8	2,571.3	2,594.3	2,504.0	2,540.1	2,539.7	2,544.2	2,543.6	2,556.5	12.9
Child day care services	888.0	873.5	873.5	886.2	863.3	862.7	860.4	858.2	854.3	861.3	7.0
Leisure and hospitality	13,721	12,820	13,050	13,377	13,495	13,268	13,236	13,202	13,164	13,167	3
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	2,060.1	1,775.9	1,858.5	1,972.8	1,978.3	1,943.8	1,936.2	1,928.7	1,901.8	1,896.4	-5.4
Performing arts and spectator sports	430.3	377.6	396.3	416.8	409.4	405.7	398.6	400.5	393.6	397.7	4.1
Museums, historical sites, zoos, and parks	139.2	120.9	128.4	137.9	133.9	130.3	130.9	130.6	130.7	131.5	.8
Amusements, gambling, and recreation	1,490.6	1,277.4	1,333.8	1,418.1	1,435.0	1,407.8	1,406.7	1,397.6	1,377.5	1,367.2	-10.3
Accommodation and food services	11,660.4	11,043.6	11,191.9	11,403.8	11,516.7	11,323.7	11,299.7	11,273.2	11,261.7	11,270.9	9.2
Accommodation	1,879.7	1,672.8	1,679.3	1,715.5	1,872.1	1,768.4	1,754.7	1,732.7	1,723.2	1,723.5	.3
Food services and drinking places	9,780.7	9,370.8	9,512.6	9,688.3	9,644.6	9,555.3	9,545.0	9,540.5	9,538.5	9,547.4	8.9
Other services	5,562	5,402	5,414	5,440	5,542	5,461	5,449	5,426	5,420	5,419	-1
Repair and maintenance	1,247.0	1,163.6	1,168.7	1,170.1	1,239.6	1,184.7	1,177.3	1,166.3	1,164.5	1,161.1	-3.4
Personal and laundry services	1,341.7	1,294.3	1,300.6	1,307.8	1,325.3	1,313.6	1,312.5	1,302.4	1,297.2	1,294.1	-3.1
Membership associations and organizations	2,972.9	2,943.8	2,944.6	2,962.1	2,976.9	2,963.1	2,958.7	2,956.8	2,958.0	2,963.9	5.9
Government	22,876	22,929	23,028	23,004	22,488	22,540	22,547	22,543	22,635	22,628	-7
Federal	2,764	2,787	2,895	2,881	2,763	2,793	2,796	2,808	2,894	2,879	-15
Federal, except U.S. Postal Service	2,011.7	2,069.2	2,171.5	2,176.2	2,007.7	2,065.8	2,071.0	2,086.0	2,170.9	2,169.4	-1.5
U.S. Postal Service	752.4	717.7	723.2	705.2	755.7	726.9	724.9	721.7	722.7	709.6	-13.1
State government	5,206	5,323	5,330	5,228	5,167	5,192	5,192	5,186	5,188	5,188	0
State government education	2,379.8	2,525.4	2,529.5	2,425.2	2,348.0	2,380.2	2,382.3	2,379.9	2,384.1	2,387.5	3.4
State government, excluding education	2,825.8	2,797.5	2,800.5	2,802.6	2,818.5	2,811.6	2,809.4	2,805.9	2,803.6	2,800.2	-3.4
Local government	14,906	14,819	14,803	14,895	14,558	14,555	14,559	14,549	14,553	14,561	8
Local government education	8,431.8	8,444.7	8,413.7	8,433.2	8,085.2	8,070.7	8,076.7	8,078.7	8,082.4	8,084.4	2.0
Local government, excluding education	6,474.1	6,374.7	6,389.6	6,461.9	6,472.9	6,484.7	6,482.5	6,469.8	6,470.1	6,476.1	6.0

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[1] Includes other industries, not shown separately.

[2] Includes motor vehicles, motor vehicle bodies and trailers, and motor vehicle parts.

[3] Includes ambulatory health care services, hospitals, and nursing and residential care facilities.

[p] = preliminary.

Table B-2. Average weekly hours of production and nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	May 2008	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009p	May 2009p	May 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009p	May 2009p	Change from: Apr. 2009-May 2009p
Total private	33.6	33.1	32.8	33.0	33.7	33.3	33.3	33.1	33.2	33.1	-0.1
Goods-producing	40.2	38.7	38.4	39.0	40.2	39.3	39.2	38.9	39.0	38.9	-.1
Mining and logging	44.2	42.9	42.5	43.0	44.6	44.2	43.9	43.4	43.0	43.4	.4
Construction	38.6	37.3	37.0	38.1	38.5	37.9	38.0	37.7	37.6	37.7	.1
Manufacturing	40.9	39.2	38.9	39.3	40.9	39.8	39.5	39.4	39.5	39.3	-.2
Overtime hours	3.7	2.5	2.3	2.7	3.9	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.7	.0
Durable goods	41.2	39.2	38.9	39.2	41.2	39.8	39.6	39.3	39.6	39.3	-.3
Overtime hours	3.8	2.3	2.1	2.4	3.9	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.4	-.1
Wood products	39.3	36.2	36.4	37.6	39.0	36.9	37.1	36.9	37.0	37.0	.0
Nonmetallic mineral products	42.5	39.2	40.1	40.4	42.3	40.2	40.0	39.9	40.2	40.2	.0
Primary metals	42.2	40.3	39.1	39.4	42.4	40.4	40.1	40.1	39.9	39.7	-.2
Fabricated metal products	41.4	38.8	38.4	38.9	41.5	39.7	39.5	39.0	39.2	39.0	-.2
Machinery	42.1	40.0	39.6	39.5	42.2	40.9	40.6	40.1	40.2	39.8	-.4
Computer and electronic products	41.1	39.8	39.6	39.7	41.1	40.7	40.5	39.9	40.2	39.9	-.3
Electrical equipment and appliances	40.8	38.6	38.6	39.3	41.1	39.4	38.9	38.8	39.6	39.4	-.2
Transportation equipment	41.9	40.0	40.0	40.0	41.9	40.4	40.1	40.0	40.7	39.9	-.8
Motor vehicles and parts[2]	41.5	37.9	38.7	37.8	41.4	38.6	38.2	38.0	39.0	37.6	-1.4
Furniture and related products	38.5	37.5	36.9	37.7	38.8	37.7	37.4	37.7	37.6	37.8	.2
Miscellaneous manufacturing	39.0	38.3	37.9	38.1	39.2	38.4	38.2	38.2	38.2	38.1	-.1
Nondurable goods	40.3	39.2	38.8	39.3	40.5	39.7	39.5	39.4	39.5	39.5	.0
Overtime hours	3.7	2.8	2.6	3.1	3.8	3.2	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.2	.1
Food manufacturing	40.7	39.6	38.9	40.0	40.8	40.1	39.9	40.1	40.1	40.1	.0
Beverages and tobacco products	39.9	35.8	35.0	36.9	39.5	37.0	37.0	36.2	35.9	36.5	.6
Textile mills	38.7	36.2	35.9	36.0	38.9	37.1	36.4	36.3	36.4	36.1	-.3
Textile product mills	38.3	37.0	36.8	37.2	38.7	37.0	37.1	37.0	37.2	37.4	.2
Apparel	36.1	36.2	35.7	36.2	36.0	36.0	35.6	36.1	36.1	36.1	.0
Leather and allied products	39.0	33.1	31.9	31.9	38.8	34.0	33.3	32.8	32.2	31.5	-.7
Paper and paper products	42.1	40.7	41.0	40.6	42.6	41.6	41.5	41.1	41.2	40.8	-.4
Printing and related support activities	38.3	37.6	37.0	37.0	38.6	37.7	37.3	37.5	37.5	37.4	-.1
Petroleum and coal products	44.0	43.3	43.5	43.8	44.1	45.1	43.8	44.3	44.2	44.2	.0
Chemicals	40.9	40.9	40.7	40.6	41.2	41.1	41.1	40.9	40.9	40.8	-.1
Plastics and rubber products	41.0	39.3	39.1	39.7	40.9	39.9	39.6	39.4	39.8	39.8	.0
Private service-providing	32.3	32.1	31.8	31.9	32.4	32.2	32.1	32.1	32.1	32.1	.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	33.1	32.7	32.6	32.9	33.2	32.9	32.8	32.7	32.8	32.9	.1
Wholesale trade	38.2	37.9	37.6	37.7	38.3	38.1	37.9	37.8	37.8	37.8	.0
Retail trade	30.0	29.5	29.6	29.9	30.1	29.7	29.8	29.7	29.8	29.9	.1
Transportation and warehousing	36.2	35.7	35.4	36.0	36.4	36.0	35.7	35.7	36.0	36.2	.2
Utilities	42.4	42.2	42.3	42.0	42.5	42.6	43.2	42.4	42.3	42.1	-.2
Information	36.2	36.8	36.2	36.0	36.6	37.2	36.9	36.7	36.5	36.5	.0
Financial activities	35.6	36.5	35.8	35.7	35.9	36.2	36.2	36.1	36.0	36.0	.0
Professional and business services	34.8	34.9	34.4	34.6	34.9	34.9	34.8	34.7	34.8	34.7	-.1
Education and health services	32.5	32.4	32.2	32.2	32.7	32.4	32.3	32.4	32.4	32.4	.0
Leisure and hospitality	25.3	24.8	24.6	24.7	25.3	24.8	25.0	24.8	24.8	24.8	.0
Other services	30.7	30.5	30.4	30.5	30.8	30.7	30.6	30.5	30.5	30.6	.1

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[1] Data relate to production workers in mining and logging and manufacturing, construction workers in construction, and nonsupervisory workers in the service-providing industries. These groups account for approximately four-fifths of the total employment on private nonfarm payrolls.

[2] Includes motor vehicles, motor vehicle bodies and trailers, and motor vehicle parts.

p = preliminary.

Table B-3. Average hourly and weekly earnings of production and nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail

Industry	Average hourly earnings				Average weekly earnings			
	May 2008	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009p	May 2009p	May 2008	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009p	May 2009p
Total private	$17.94	$18.57	$18.53	$18.48	$602.78	$614.67	$607.78	$609.84
Seasonally adjusted	17.99	18.50	18.52	18.54	606.26	612.35	614.86	613.67
Goods-producing	19.15	19.74	19.80	19.84	769.83	763.94	760.32	773.76
Mining and logging	21.52	23.40	23.35	23.02	951.18	1,003.86	992.38	989.86
Construction	21.61	22.45	22.46	22.60	834.15	837.39	831.02	861.06
Manufacturing	17.65	18.09	18.15	18.08	721.89	709.13	706.04	710.54
Durable goods	18.60	19.17	19.21	19.20	766.32	751.46	747.27	752.64
Wood products	14.11	14.67	14.70	14.87	554.52	531.05	535.08	559.11
Nonmetallic mineral products	16.89	17.19	17.40	17.33	717.83	673.85	697.74	700.13
Primary metals	20.24	19.69	20.01	19.97	854.13	793.51	782.39	786.82
Fabricated metal products	16.85	17.29	17.43	17.39	697.59	670.85	669.31	676.47
Machinery	18.01	18.26	18.22	18.31	758.22	730.40	721.51	723.25
Computer and electronic products	20.95	21.71	21.75	21.84	861.05	864.06	861.30	867.05
Electrical equipment and appliances	15.66	15.95	16.00	16.12	638.93	615.67	617.60	633.52
Transportation equipment	23.59	24.80	24.76	24.83	988.42	992.00	990.40	993.20
Furniture and related products	14.48	15.02	14.95	14.99	557.48	563.25	551.66	565.12
Miscellaneous manufacturing	14.97	16.02	16.02	15.92	583.83	613.57	607.16	606.55
Nondurable goods	16.05	16.43	16.53	16.42	646.82	644.06	641.36	645.31
Food manufacturing	13.91	14.24	14.28	14.23	566.14	563.90	555.49	569.20
Beverages and tobacco products	19.19	20.40	20.25	20.25	765.68	730.32	708.75	747.23
Textile mills	13.50	13.88	13.79	13.68	522.45	502.46	495.06	492.48
Textile product mills	11.86	11.34	11.35	11.33	454.24	419.58	417.68	421.48
Apparel	11.43	11.26	11.48	11.36	412.62	407.61	409.84	411.23
Leather and allied products	12.88	14.21	14.34	13.89	502.32	470.35	457.45	443.09
Paper and paper products	18.79	18.90	19.26	19.03	791.06	769.23	789.66	772.62
Printing and related support activities	16.66	16.69	16.75	16.61	638.08	627.54	619.75	614.57
Petroleum and coal products	26.85	29.80	29.89	29.37	1,181.40	1,290.34	1,300.22	1,286.41
Chemicals	19.33	19.93	20.01	20.08	790.60	815.14	814.41	815.25
Plastics and rubber products	15.74	16.20	16.20	16.11	645.34	636.66	633.42	639.57
Private service-providing	17.64	18.31	18.25	18.18	569.77	587.75	580.35	579.94
Trade, transportation, and utilities	16.12	16.45	16.43	16.37	533.57	537.92	535.62	538.57
Wholesale trade	19.93	20.64	20.69	20.66	761.33	782.26	777.94	778.88
Retail trade	12.89	13.02	13.02	13.00	386.70	384.09	385.39	388.70
Transportation and warehousing	18.35	18.64	18.59	18.46	664.27	665.45	658.09	664.56
Utilities	28.84	29.42	29.51	29.56	1,222.82	1,241.52	1,248.27	1,241.52
Information	24.65	25.40	25.22	25.34	892.33	934.72	912.96	912.24
Financial activities	20.19	20.67	20.65	20.69	718.76	754.46	739.27	738.63
Professional and business services	20.88	22.52	22.30	22.23	726.62	785.95	767.12	769.16
Education and health services	18.76	19.23	19.33	19.29	609.70	623.05	622.43	621.14
Leisure and hospitality	10.83	11.00	10.99	10.98	274.00	272.80	270.35	271.21
Other services	16.11	16.33	16.26	16.32	494.58	498.07	494.30	497.76

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.

p = preliminary.

Table B-4. Average hourly earnings of production and nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail, seasonally adjusted

Industry	May 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009^{p}	May 2009^{p}	Percent change from: Apr. 2009-May 2009 ^{p}
Total private:							
Current dollars	$17.99	$18.43	$18.46	$18.50	$18.52	$18.54	0.1
Constant (1982) dollars [2]	8.27	8.64	8.61	8.64	8.65	N.A.	(3)
Goods-producing	19.20	19.72	19.78	19.85	19.84	19.86	.1
Mining and logging	21.79	23.14	23.14	23.33	23.32	23.25	-.3
Construction	21.72	22.43	22.42	22.59	22.58	22.66	.4
Manufacturing	17.68	17.99	18.07	18.10	18.12	18.10	-.1
Excluding overtime [4]	16.88	17.36	17.47	17.52	17.52	17.50	-.1
Durable goods	18.63	18.99	19.09	19.17	19.20	19.22	.1
Nondurable goods	16.08	16.43	16.49	16.46	16.48	16.44	-.2
Private service-providing	17.69	18.14	18.17	18.20	18.23	18.25	.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	16.13	16.36	16.38	16.38	16.40	16.40	.0
Wholesale trade	20.07	20.41	20.52	20.59	20.70	20.77	.3
Retail trade	12.87	12.97	12.96	12.97	12.98	12.98	.0
Transportation and warehousing	18.39	18.72	18.67	18.68	18.65	18.60	-.3
Utilities	28.81	29.22	29.67	29.31	29.37	29.53	.5
Information	24.71	24.98	25.09	25.31	25.25	25.37	.5
Financial activities	20.23	20.53	20.55	20.62	20.64	20.73	.4
Professional and business services	20.96	22.04	22.17	22.26	22.30	22.35	.2
Education and health services	18.80	19.18	19.24	19.24	19.34	19.35	.1
Leisure and hospitality	10.83	10.97	10.97	10.98	10.98	10.99	.1
Other services	16.04	16.30	16.25	16.23	16.23	16.27	.2

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[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.

[2] The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) is used to deflate this series.

[3] Change was 0.1 percent from Mar. 2009 to Apr. 2009, the latest month available.

[4] Derived by assuming that overtime hours are paid at the rate of time and one-half.

N.A. = not available.

^{p} = preliminary.

Table B-5. Indexes of aggregate weekly hours of production and nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail

(2002=100)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	May 2008	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009^p	May 2009^p	May 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009^p	May 2009^p	Percent change from: Apr. 2009-May 2009^p
Total private	106.9	99.3	98.6	99.6	106.9	102.5	101.9	100.7	100.4	99.7	-0.7
Goods-producing	98.4	81.2	80.4	81.7	98.1	88.1	86.5	84.1	82.9	81.5	-1.7
Mining and logging	133.4	125.2	121.3	121.6	134.9	138.3	135.1	129.6	125.4	124.1	-1.0
Construction	109.8	86.0	86.9	91.8	108.6	97.5	96.1	93.2	90.9	90.0	-1.0
Manufacturing	91.7	77.1	75.6	75.5	91.7	81.7	79.8	78.3	77.3	75.7	-2.1
Durable goods	94.2	76.6	74.8	73.8	94.1	81.6	79.6	77.3	76.3	74.1	-2.9
Wood products	80.2	58.8	59.1	60.8	79.7	64.6	62.5	62.0	61.2	60.1	-1.8
Nonmetallic mineral products	94.8	72.6	76.7	77.2	93.3	81.0	78.9	76.8	77.2	76.4	-1.0
Primary metals	89.1	70.3	65.7	64.2	89.5	75.6	72.0	70.0	67.3	64.9	-3.6
Fabricated metal products	102.7	83.3	80.4	79.9	103.2	89.8	87.4	84.2	82.6	80.6	-2.4
Machinery	102.9	84.4	81.4	78.0	103.0	91.8	88.9	84.9	82.7	79.1	-4.4
Computer and electronic products	102.8	91.2	89.7	88.4	102.9	96.4	94.1	91.5	91.1	89.0	-2.3
Electrical equipment and appliances	88.8	75.9	74.1	74.2	89.9	81.8	79.1	76.7	76.5	74.6	-2.5
Transportation equipment	91.5	71.1	69.2	67.2	90.9	73.2	72.4	71.0	69.9	66.5	-4.9
Motor vehicles and parts[2]	76.0	52.1	51.1	47.6	75.0	53.5	53.2	51.9	50.6	46.6	-7.9
Furniture and related products	77.4	60.5	58.7	59.0	77.9	64.7	62.5	61.4	59.9	59.0	-1.5
Miscellaneous manufacturing	89.7	81.9	81.6	81.9	90.2	84.8	83.7	82.4	82.6	82.2	-.5
Nondurable goods	87.4	77.8	76.7	77.7	88.1	81.6	80.3	79.3	79.2	78.6	-.8
Food manufacturing	100.0	94.8	93.5	97.1	101.8	98.7	98.0	98.2	99.1	99.0	-.1
Beverages and tobacco products	94.7	82.4	80.4	85.3	93.8	90.1	88.8	86.7	85.3	85.8	.6
Textile mills	49.7	37.1	36.7	36.9	49.4	39.7	38.2	37.3	37.5	36.9	-1.6
Textile product mills	72.0	58.5	56.9	57.2	71.9	62.7	61.4	58.5	57.6	57.5	-.2
Apparel	56.5	48.0	45.9	47.1	56.3	49.7	48.4	48.4	47.0	47.1	.2
Leather and allied products	72.9	57.5	56.7	54.8	71.8	60.9	59.1	57.4	56.8	54.1	-4.8
Paper and paper products	82.7	73.3	73.6	72.1	83.9	77.9	76.4	74.8	74.4	72.6	-2.4
Printing and related support activities	87.3	75.7	73.1	73.4	87.9	78.7	76.5	75.9	74.8	74.5	-.4
Petroleum and coal products	102.6	84.2	89.6	89.8	101.3	93.3	89.2	89.4	92.4	90.1	-2.5
Chemicals	94.9	89.0	88.1	87.9	95.2	91.0	90.4	89.3	88.6	88.0	-.7
Plastics and rubber products	89.3	73.4	72.5	72.0	88.9	78.0	76.2	74.3	73.9	72.4	-2.0
Private service-providing	109.4	104.3	103.7	104.5	109.4	106.6	105.9	105.5	105.1	104.9	-.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	103.7	97.2	96.7	98.1	104.3	100.2	99.3	98.6	98.4	98.4	.0
Wholesale trade	109.6	102.7	101.5	101.7	109.7	105.6	104.2	103.3	102.5	101.9	-.6
Retail trade	100.0	93.8	94.1	95.7	101.1	96.8	96.8	96.1	96.1	96.4	.3
Transportation and warehousing	108.4	99.7	98.2	100.0	108.4	102.8	101.2	100.7	100.6	100.6	.0
Utilities	97.3	98.8	98.5	97.9	97.5	100.1	101.6	99.6	99.0	98.3	-.7
Information	99.8	97.7	95.1	94.3	100.7	99.4	98.4	97.4	96.2	95.4	-.8
Financial activities	107.2	105.5	102.9	102.5	108.1	106.5	105.8	104.9	104.0	103.5	-.5
Professional and business services	114.8	106.4	105.5	105.7	115.2	110.1	108.6	107.5	107.1	106.2	-.8
Education and health services	115.7	118.2	117.8	117.5	116.0	117.2	116.9	117.4	117.5	117.8	.3
Leisure and hospitality	112.6	102.8	103.9	107.2	110.5	106.7	107.2	106.1	105.8	106.0	.2
Other services	100.2	96.5	96.5	97.2	99.9	98.2	97.6	97.0	96.9	97.1	.2

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[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.

[2] Includes motor vehicles, motor vehicle bodies and trailers, and motor vehicle parts.

^{p} = preliminary.

NOTE: The index of aggregate weekly hours are calculated by dividing the current month's estimates of aggregate hours by the corresponding 2002 annual average levels. Aggregate hours estimates are the product of estimates of average weekly hours and production and nonsupervisory worker employment.

Table B-6. Indexes of aggregate weekly payrolls of production and nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail

(2002=100)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	May 2008	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009^p	May 2009^p	May 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009^p	May 2009^p	Percent change from: Apr. 2009-May 2009^p
Total private	128.1	123.2	122.1	123.0	128.5	126.2	125.7	124.4	124.2	123.5	-0.6
Goods-producing	115.4	98.1	97.5	99.3	115.4	106.4	104.7	102.3	100.7	99.1	-1.6
Mining and logging	167.0	170.3	164.7	162.8	170.9	186.2	181.8	175.9	170.1	167.8	-1.4
Construction	128.1	104.3	105.4	112.0	127.4	118.0	116.4	113.7	110.9	110.1	-.7
Manufacturing	105.8	91.2	89.8	89.3	106.0	96.1	94.3	92.6	91.6	89.7	-2.1
Durable goods	109.4	91.7	89.7	88.5	109.4	96.8	94.9	92.6	91.4	88.9	-2.7
Nondurable goods	99.2	90.3	89.6	90.2	100.1	94.7	93.6	92.2	92.2	91.4	-.9
Private service-providing	132.3	131.0	129.8	130.2	132.7	132.6	131.9	131.6	131.3	131.3	.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	119.2	114.1	113.3	114.5	120.0	116.9	116.1	115.2	115.1	115.1	.0
Wholesale trade	128.7	124.9	123.7	123.8	129.8	126.9	126.0	125.3	125.0	124.6	-.3
Retail trade	110.5	104.6	105.0	106.7	111.5	107.7	107.5	106.9	107.0	107.2	.2
Transportation and warehousing	126.1	117.9	115.8	117.2	126.5	122.1	119.9	119.3	119.0	118.8	-.2
Utilities	117.1	121.3	121.3	120.8	117.3	122.1	125.8	121.8	121.3	121.2	-.1
Information	121.8	122.9	118.8	118.3	123.1	122.9	122.2	122.0	120.3	119.8	-.4
Financial activities	133.8	134.8	131.4	131.1	135.2	135.1	134.4	133.8	132.7	132.7	.0
Professional and business services	142.6	142.5	139.9	139.8	143.7	144.3	143.3	142.4	142.1	141.2	-.6
Education and health services	142.7	149.4	149.6	149.0	143.4	147.8	147.9	148.5	149.4	149.8	.3
Leisure and hospitality	138.5	128.4	129.7	133.7	135.9	132.9	133.6	132.3	131.9	132.2	.2
Other services	117.6	114.8	114.3	115.6	116.8	116.6	115.6	114.7	114.5	115.1	.5

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.

^{p} = preliminary.

NOTE: The index of aggregate weekly payrolls are calculated by dividing the current month's estimates of aggregate payrolls by the corresponding 2002 annual average levels. Aggregate payroll estimates are the product of estimates of average hourly earnings, average weekly hours, and production and nonsupervisory worker employment.

Table B-7. Diffusion indexes of employment change

(Percent)

Time span	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Private nonfarm payrolls, 271 industries [1]											
Over 1-month span:												
2005	52.6	60.1	54.1	58.1	56.8	58.3	58.5	59.2	54.2	55.9	62.7	57.6
2006	64.9	62.2	63.8	59.8	49.1	51.8	59.2	55.4	55.7	56.3	59.4	60.7
2007	53.5	55.5	52.4	49.4	55.9	48.3	50.7	46.5	55.9	57.2	59.4	57.9
2008	42.1	40.6	44.1	41.1	42.6	36.9	37.6	39.1	34.7	33.0	27.1	20.5
2009	22.1	20.8	19.6	[p] 25.8	[p] 32.7							
Over 3-month span:												
2005	51.7	57.2	59.0	59.8	57.9	62.0	60.5	62.9	60.3	55.5	56.3	62.7
2006	67.7	68.6	65.1	65.1	60.5	58.9	55.5	57.0	55.0	54.4	59.0	64.2
2007	62.5	54.8	54.2	54.8	54.1	50.4	52.8	48.7	53.3	53.9	58.3	62.5
2008	57.7	44.8	40.2	39.7	37.3	33.6	33.6	32.8	34.9	33.2	26.9	20.8
2009	18.6	14.2	15.1	[p] 16.1	[p] 23.1							
Over 6-month span:												
2005	55.4	57.9	58.1	57.0	58.3	60.9	63.1	63.3	61.6	59.6	61.4	62.5
2006	64.6	63.8	67.5	66.2	65.5	66.6	60.3	61.1	57.9	57.9	62.4	59.0
2007	60.3	57.2	60.5	58.3	55.5	56.5	52.8	52.4	56.6	54.4	56.8	59.0
2008	56.6	53.0	50.7	47.4	40.2	33.4	31.0	33.4	30.6	29.0	26.0	24.4
2009	21.6	17.2	15.1	[p] 15.7	[p] 14.6							
Over 12-month span:												
2005	60.9	60.9	60.0	59.2	58.3	60.3	61.3	63.3	60.7	59.2	59.8	61.8
2006	67.2	65.5	65.9	62.9	65.5	66.8	64.8	64.4	66.6	65.9	64.9	66.2
2007	63.3	59.4	61.1	59.6	59.2	58.3	56.8	57.2	59.4	58.9	58.1	59.6
2008	54.4	56.1	52.6	49.1	50.2	47.8	43.7	42.3	38.0	37.8	32.3	28.2
2009	24.0	22.0	19.9	[p] 18.6	[p] 19.9							
	Manufacturing payrolls, 83 industries [1]											
Over 1-month span:												
2005	36.7	46.4	42.2	46.4	40.4	33.7	41.0	43.4	45.8	47.6	44.6	47.0
2006	57.8	49.4	53.6	47.0	37.3	50.6	49.4	42.2	40.4	42.8	41.0	44.0
2007	44.6	41.0	30.7	24.7	38.0	32.5	43.4	30.7	39.2	42.8	60.8	48.2
2008	30.7	28.9	37.3	32.5	40.4	25.3	25.9	27.7	22.9	18.7	15.1	10.2
2009	6.0	9.6	10.8	[p] 19.9	[p] 12.0							
Over 3-month span:												
2005	36.7	43.4	41.0	41.6	35.5	36.1	34.9	36.7	42.2	44.0	38.6	48.8
2006	56.6	57.2	48.2	48.2	44.6	50.0	43.4	45.2	36.7	33.1	35.5	39.2
2007	40.4	33.1	33.1	28.9	29.5	30.1	31.9	28.9	30.7	30.7	39.2	51.2
2008	48.8	33.7	28.3	29.5	26.5	22.9	19.9	16.9	22.3	21.1	15.1	11.4
2009	6.0	3.6	3.6	[p] 8.4	[p] 10.2							
Over 6-month span:												
2005	33.7	39.8	38.0	36.1	35.5	34.9	39.8	36.1	36.1	38.0	36.7	39.8
2006	45.2	45.2	50.6	48.8	50.6	50.0	45.2	47.0	43.4	42.2	39.8	34.3
2007	37.3	33.1	29.5	28.9	30.7	34.9	28.9	26.5	29.5	28.3	33.7	38.0
2008	34.3	30.1	37.3	35.5	25.3	20.5	17.5	18.1	16.9	13.3	11.4	9.6
2009	9.0	4.8	4.8	[p] 6.0	[p] 6.0							
Over 12-month span:												
2005	45.2	44.0	42.2	41.0	36.7	35.5	32.5	34.3	33.1	33.7	33.7	38.0
2006	44.0	41.0	41.0	39.8	39.8	45.2	42.2	42.8	47.0	48.8	45.8	44.6
2007	39.8	36.7	37.3	30.7	28.9	29.5	30.7	28.9	33.1	28.9	34.3	35.5
2008	27.7	28.9	25.9	25.3	30.7	27.1	24.7	19.3	21.7	21.7	16.9	15.1
2009	8.4	4.8	4.8	[p] 4.8	[p] 7.2							

[1] Based on seasonally adjusted data for 1-, 3-, and 6-month spans and unadjusted data for the 12-month span.

[p] = preliminary.

NOTE: Figures are the percent of industries with employment increasing plus one-half of the industries with unchanged employment, where 50 percent indicates an equal balance between industries with increasing and decreasing employment.

PREPARED STATEMENT OF SENATOR ROBERT P. CASEY, JR.

Mister Chairman, thank you for holding this hearing today on this very important monthly jobs report.

Although the numbers of Americans applying for unemployment benefits have continued to decrease in recent weeks, the overall employment picture is bleak with 350,000 jobs lost in May, bringing the total to 7 million jobs lost since the recession began in December 2007. A monthly job loss of 350,000 may look better compared to the 700,000 lost in March but we are still shedding hundreds of thousands of jobs a month.

Furthermore, once unemployed, people are struggling tremendously to find work. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics May report, of the 14.5 million unemployed, 3.9 million—over one-quarter—were "long-term unemployed," meaning that they have been out of work and searching for a new job for at least six months. Of those out of work for more than six months, over one-half were unemployed for a full year or longer.

We have seen that the employment situation is especially challenging within certain demographic groups. The BLS reports over the last year have shown that rising unemployment is affecting minority populations in particular. The unemployment rate for African Americans is 15.0 percent while the rate for Hispanics rose from 11.3 percent to 12.7 in the last month alone—well above the unemployment rate for whites, which is 8.6 percent. I am concerned that relief from this recession will be all too slow for those most likely to be impacted.

Given these startling facts, we need to take action now on two tracks. First, we need to continue to take the immediate steps necessary to stabilize the housing market, thaw the credit markets, and spur job creation. Passage of the Recovery and Reinvestment Act was an essential component of our strategy to create and retain good paying jobs. In the long term, we need to pass healthcare legislation this summer, strengthen job training programs and make sure that the doors to higher education remain open.

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